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Summary of News.

Monday, 11th May.

IT has been shown that one year's increase in the spinning power of England is half of the total spining power of India.

A Moscow dentist says he has solved the problem of supplying the human mouth with false teeth which will grow into the gums as firmly as natural ones.

ONE of the oldest parrots in the world died in New London the other day, aged 118 years. It is said there is no doubt about the age of the bird, for William Colfax of Colt Street, who owned it at the time of its death, has positive evidence that it had been in the Colfax family for more than a century. Polly was known to every body in the neighbourhood in which her life was spent and was the pet of all the Colt Street school-children; for she chatted with them like a trooper. She talked almost incessantly up to the time of her death, and spoke very plainly. She was buried with some honors.

A LABORER lately told his wife, on awakening, a curious dream which he had during the night. He dreamed that he saw coming toward him in order, four rats. The first one was very fat, and was followed by two lean rats, the rear rat being blind. The dreamer was greatly perplexed as to what evil might follow, as it has been understood that to dream of rats denotes coming calamity. He appealed to his wife concerning this; but the poor woman could not help him. His son, a sharp lad, who heard his father tell the story, volunteered to be the interpreter. "The fat rat," he said, "is the man who keeps the drink Saloon that you go to so often. The two lean rats are my mother and I, and the blind rat, father, is yourself."

CORRESPONDENCE respecting the Egyptian exiles in Ceylon has been presented to Parliament, and shows that in June last a memorial was received from Arabi Pasha and the other Egyptian exiles in Ceylon praying for their restoration to Egypt on the ground that the climate of Ceylon is prejudicial to their health, and asking also that they should be allowed to retain the allowances at present made to them, the memorial being accompanied by medical certificates. The Khedive was consulted on the matter and declared that it would be impossible for him to consent to such transfer in view of the very bad effect which their presence in the country would produce. It was further pointed out that the exiles were pardoned and allowances granted to them on the express condition that they should remain interned at some distant spot, such as the island of Ceylon. At the request of the Foreign Office a medical board was appointed by the Governor of Ceylon to inquire into the condition of the exiles; the opinion of this board, after taking evidence, being that the climate of Ceylon had exercised no injurious effect on the health of the exiles, and that any change of climate required for the benefit of their health could be had in Ceylon itself. The last despatch announces, under these circumstances, that Her Majesty's Government are not prepared to remove the exiles from the island.

LORD KNUTSFORD, Sir John Gorst and many Members of the House of Commons are suffering from influenza.

THE statement that the Paris House of Rothschilds had refused to proceed with the issue of the new Russian Conversion Loan, owing to the renewed persecution of Jews, is now confirmed by the Russian papers, which state that the Government rejected the demands of the Rothschilds for better treatment of Jews in Russia. The order for the expulsion of Jews from Moscow has been suspended for one or two years to enable them to pay their debts to Russian subjects. It is considered probable that their expulsion will ultimately be abandoned.

A GOVERNMENT decree issued in Lisbon orders the coinage of silver to the value of half a million sterling, and also empowers the Bank of Portugal to pay its notes in silver for a period of three months. The object of these measures is to provide a remedy for the dearth of gold which is stated to be due to the lock-up of capital.

Tuesday, 12th May.

LAST Monday was the 25th of March in the Russian year, which is one of the greatest holidays in Russia and is likewise the feast day of the regiments of the Imperial Horse Cavalier Guards. It has been customary for the Emperor and Empress and the respective chiefs to review them on the paradeground opposite the palace of the Grand Duke Nicholas. No one is admitted to this ceremony excepting members of the Imperial family and personal friends. Officers and guests are accommodated on two small stands immediately adjoining the vestibule, along which the Imperial party pass. On the morning of the day of the review a man of middle height, of sallow complexion, and of southern type presented himself with a ticket of invitation and took his position on one of these galleries in the front row, commanding the royal passage, where the distance between himself and the Emperor would be about five paces. He was much before the usual time of assembly, and this occurrence gave an opportunity to the detective police to examine him and his card. It was found that the name of the latter was not down on the list of guests which had been furnished them. They invited him to step to an adjoining waiting-room, where he was searched, and upon him were found a revolver and a small globule containing what is believed to be very strong poison. The police had been expecting the arrival of this agent, whose name is given as Shameikin. He is understood to come from some provincial city, and it is believed that the plot had been promoted by Sophie Gunsberg, who is said to be still immured in the fortress of Schlusselburg.

IT has now been definitely arranged that emigration from India to the British possessions in North Borneo is to be opened. The field from which emigrants will be drawn will be confined to the Madras Presidency, and the system under which emigration will be conducted will be the same as that which is in force with the Straits Settlements, and which involves fewer restrictions than emigration under the General Emigration Act of 1883. Emigrants to Borneo will be required to pass through Singapore, where they will be subjected to the inspection of the authorities of the Straits Settlements as a precaution against the illegal smuggling of emigrants from India by unlicensed agents. One condition which has been made in the covenant with the North Borneo Government, is that a Protector familiar with the language and character of Madras coolies shall be appointed for the purpose of representing any greivances or difficulties which may be found to exist.

SIR JAMES PEILE, K. C. S. I., and Major-General E. F. Chapman, C. B., have been appointed Trustees of the United Kingdom Branch of the Countess of Dufferin Fund. Lady Bayley, late Lady President, Bengal, and Mrs. Robertson, lafely of Allahabad, have joined the Home Committee. Lady Dufferin has reached England from Rome, and has taken over charge from Lady Edward Cavendish of the office of Lady President. Lady Dufferin is to give a lecture on the 20th instant at Oxford, and is organising a concert to be given at Grosvenor House on the 5th June in aid of the fund of the Association.

BABU BADDINATH MITTER has built a *Thakoorbari* near his residence at Kumartolly and made suitable arrangements for its maintenance. Rice and alms are distributed on festival days to the poor. The Babu has also made a free gift of land to the municipality, whereby a blind-lane has been opened, and we understand that it is the desire of the residents of the locality that this new lane should be called after the Babu, for which purpose they have already sent two petitions to the municipal authorities.

A PROPOSAL has been made by Government to abolish the office of Sheriff of Bombay, entrusting its duties to a High Bailiff. At the same time it is under contemplation to amalgamate the process-serving staffs of the High Court and Small Cause Court, and to place the whole of the bailiffs under this new official, who would be a continuator of the office of Under-Sheriff, but bear a new title and perform additional functions.

THE Dacoit Jagu Nath who recently made a raid on Silcya, a village in Nowgong, has been shot by the Rajah of Bijawar's troops. The remainder of his gang have dispersed.

Wednesday, 13th May.

MR. HARRINGTON, of incinerator fame, is formulating a scheme for giving the residents of Howrah a fair supply of pure water. He does not think it needful to go so far up the river as Pulta to pump the water, and to lay down a long and costly main to bring it to the place of consumption. He maintains that fairly sweet water may be pumped from the Hooghly during sixteen hours each day from the lower depths of the river, at a sufficient distance from the banks. He proposes to pump 1,200,000 gallons of water into settling tanks, and thence through filter beds into a clean reservoir. After allowing for waste, he estimates a supply of one million gallons daily. The outlay would be, according to Mr. Harrington's calculation, Rs. 35,135 annually for twenty-five years.

A RESOLUTION has been passed by the Newfoundland Legislature engaging the colony to adopt such laws as may be necessary to carry out the proposals made to the Imperial Government by their delegates,

MR. CHATTERJEE, the intrepid balloonist, has made a good thing out of his visit to Rawalpindi. He received a rich purse in addition to the guaranteed amount of Rs. 1,500 from the native gentlemen of Rawal Pindi; and when he left for Indore on Wednesday before last, the station was thronged with spectators to see him off. On the preceding evening an open air meeting in Sirdar Sujan Singh's garden, with speeches by two of the leading members of the Rawal Pindi bar, were given in his honour and a dinner party afterwards at Dr. K. N. Rai's house, where more speeches were made in his praise. The sale of tickets amounted to Rs. 1,362.

THE Viceroy will hold a *levee* on the 30th instant in celebration of the Queen-Empress' birthday.

ADVICES from Nowgong, Bundlekhund, state that up to the present nothing has been heard of Jules le Grande. The Sowars sent after him have returned without gathering any information. It is suspected that his escape was connived at by those employed in the oil mill.

THE death is announced of Mr. A. R. McIntosh, the sole remaining representative of the firm of Messrs. Marillier, Edwards and Co., Calcutta.

THE *St. James's Gazette* says:—The Indian Army has not only been reduced in numbers in recent years, but it has also changed its character. It tends to be more and more largely confined, as a correspondent of the *Standard* points out, to the "fighting races" of India—that is, the Pathans, Afghans, Punjab Mahomedans, Khyberees, Goorkhas, and generally the highlanders of the northern frontiers. Some of these men make admirable soldiers; most of them can fight well on occasion. But there is an element of danger in their exclusive employment, specially if they gradually drive out of the ranks the Sepoys from the other parts of India. So far as the mass of the Hindus is concerned these fighting races are foreigners. This perhaps, is of no great importance; for most Oriental races have been ruled from time immemorial by foreign dynasties, supported by foreign swords. But a good proportion of the fighting races are actually living outside the bounds of India. Our recruits come to us from beyond the frontier, and for what we know, keep up relations with kinsmen living in their native hills and valleys, outside the region of the English Raj. As a fighting instrument the highlander from the North is very much to be preferred to the peasant of the plains, turned into a Sepoy by the allurements of regular pay and good rations.

THE following characteristic story is told of Charles Lamb. Being awakened one night by a noise coming from the lower part of the house, he proceeded to discover the meaning of the same. He soon traced it to the plate room, and peeping through a window, discovered a burglar engaged in filling a bag with his valuables. Throwing open the door, he stepped in on the astonished robber "What tempted you to risk your life," said the great Charles, "at such a profession? Were you hungry?" "I was," was the surly and laconic answer. "In that case, allow me to assist you to a leg of lamb," said Charles, and raising his foot he suited the action to the words, and landed the nocturnal marauder out through the door.

Thursday, 14th May.

THE following is from Lord Dufferin's rectorial address:—"If you write out your speech beforehand, there are one or two precautions to which you had better attend. In the first place, do not have it sent to the reporters interlarded with cheers before it has been delivered, as once was done by an acquaintance of mine, who after all never got an opportunity of speaking; in the next, do not repeat as a speech a couple of pages from some well-known author, as Lord Beaconsfield most unaccountably did when passing a eulogium on the Duke of Wellington; for only a very great man could afford to take such a liberty; and lastly, do not let the manuscript fall out of your pocket, for there may be practised upon you a trick which was played once in the House of Commons by Sir Thomas Wyse upon an honorable member. Sir Thomas Wyse told me the story himself. The gentleman in question had come down primed with a great oration, but unfortunately he dropoed his manuscript. A mischievous colleague picked it up and brought it to Sir Thomas, who had an extraordinary faculty of learning by heart. Some other business being on hand enabled Sir Thomas Wyse to retire to a Committee room and duly prepare himself. When the discussion came on, he watched his opportunity, and contrived to catch the Speaker's eye at the opportune moment. A great number of people had been let into the secret, and were watching the effect produced by the stolen thunder upon its rightful proprietor. At first he showed signs of being pleased with support from so unexpected a quarter, but when gradually he recognised his own well-polished periods flowing forth from alien lips, the look of surprise, indignation and confusion which passed over his countenance was extremely comical."

THE *Bangabashi* announces the formation of a Joint-Stock Company for the sale of indigenous products of this country, "and thereby promoting the welfare of the Indian traders, artisans, mechanics, &c. The capital of this Company will be 5 lacs to be raised from one lac of shareholders, Rs. 5 each. Preliminary to the formation of this Company, a guaranteed fund of one lac of rupees is now being raised. The following gentlemen have promised to pay the sums, noted opposite their names :—

Rajah Peary Mohun Mukerji	Rs. 5,000
Babu Rash Behary Mukerji	,, 10,000
Babu Sashshekhareswar Roy, Tahirpore	,, 5,000
Babu Mohohur Mukerji	,, 5,000
Babu Jogendra Nath Bose	,, 5,000
Babu Bejoy Kristo Mukerji	,, 3,000
Babu Hari Hur Mukerji	,, 3,000
Dr. Juggo Bandhu Bose	,, 2,500
Babu Nilumbur Mukerji	,, 2,500
Babu Suresh Chunder Mukerji	,, 2,500
Babu Narendro Nath Bose	,, 2,500
Babu Kanye Lal Khan	,, 2,500
Proprietors of the *Bangabashi*	,, 2,000
Babu Roma Nath Ghosh	,, 2,000
Babu Kashiswar Mukerji	,, 2,000
Sir Romesh Chunder Mitter	,, 2,000
Pandit Iswar Chunder Vidyasagur	,, 1,000
Babu Akhoy Chunder Sircar	,, 1,000
Babu Gonesh Chunder Chunder	,, 1,000
Babu Amar Kumar Mitter	,, 1,000
Babu Troilackhya Nath Bose	,, 1,000
Babu Charu Chunder Mullick	,, 1,000
Babu Bhudeb Mukerji	,, 1,000
Babu Durga Churn Rukhit	,, 1,000
Babu Indra Nath Bannerji	,, 1,000
Babu Boikunta Nath Sen	,, 1,000

Besides these, eight other gentlemen have subscribed Rs. 500 each and others from Rs. 200 to 100 each. Within two weeks, more than eighty thousaud rupees have been promised.

THE Pleaders of the Calcutta Small Cause Court have sent up a Memorial to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal on the subject of the proposal to simplify the procedure of the Court. The Memorial has to meet some of the objections, which were recently raised by the deputation from the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and other public bodies in regard to the present working of the Court.

LORD KNUTSFORD'S Newfoundland Fisheries Bill has passed the Lords.

THE members of the Bombay Municipal Corporation are extremely dissatisfied with the arbitrary action of the Government in connection with the increase of the police force, which was asked for. The Corporation had lately before them a letter from Government relative to such an increase, and on the motion of Mr. Mehta, a Committee was appointed to consider and report on the matter, it being further resolved that in the meantime the President should telegraph to the Government of India requesting them not to sanction the increase pending the receipt of representations from the Corporation on the subject.

A MAHAJANA SABHA has been established at Sholapore to promote and encourage the industry of the District.

Friday, 15th May.

THE *Daily Chronicle* says that a marriage has been arranged and will shortly take place between Mr. Parnell and Mrs. Kate O'Shea.

THERE has been a dreadful explosion of a powder magazine in Rome. The panic was universal. Four pers ns were killed on the spot, while an immense number were injured more or less seriously. Several precious relics in the Vatican were damaged.

A CORRESPONDENT who took the trouble to climb the Rajabai Clock Tower on a hot day recently, confides his opinion of the recent tragedy, and things in general as seen from that height, to a Madras paper. "Certainly the view was worth the climb. I stood looking down from that dizzy height at the spot where those poor Parsee girls took their awful leap a few days ago; for it seems certain that they must have gone there willingly to their death. The parapet is a high one, and it would be a matter of great difficulty to throw any one over it. Moreover, it is in full view of the Sea road and a struggle, or even a single scream, would have drawn attention. Further, it would be necessary to jump well out from the parapet to clear the lower platforms and projecting masonry, against which a body merely hurled or pushed over the parapet would be sure to strike in its fall. Both the girls fell clear, striking nothing in their descent save the telephone wire. What the cause of this pitiful tragedy may have been seems likely to remain a mystery for ever."

THE correspondent thus goes on to describe the Tower :—"From the height where I am standing Bombay stretches beneath me like a map, the tapering promontory of Colaba, on the one hand, jutting out into the sunlit sea. A little way off, over the sparkling waves of the harbour, lies Elephanta, with its caves, once the retreat of the Thug and now much affected by relic hunting hammer-in-hand British tourist and picnic parties. "Boom, boom" goes the great Clock Tower bell as it chimes the hour within a few feet of my ears. Lowering myself through the pigeon-hole by which I have ascended from the stairs I come to a lower stage where a door gives in to the clock-room. There, in a gigantic glass case some ten feet high, are the works of the big clock with its great wheels and slowing pendulum. As one looks at the machinery one thinks with a shudder of the fate which a slip or a lurch would bring to the man who crashed through the glass case into those works, and so on down that narrow winding staircase, till at last, with a sigh of relief you step out on to the verandah of the Library. It is a splendid room, the Library, with its handsome book cases, its lofty roof and polished floor. One can quite imagine that it cost the big sum of Rs. 6,00,000 which a Parsee gentleman gave for its erection in 1869. Nine years it was in building, and a magnificent structure undoubtedly is the result. Down the broad staircase and through the offices where the clerks are busy, and so out once more in the garden and across the grass sward, where a few days ago the bodies lay of the poor girls whose death has set all Bombay talking of the University Clock Tower."

THERE does not appear to be any improvement in the condition of the districts affected by the locust plague. For over a fortnight many of the shops in Kalabagh have closed—their walls plastered with mud to keep out the insects, which are still blocking the roads and choking up the wells in undiminished numbers. A heavy shower of rain, which it was hoped would wash away the swarms, only served to add to the evil, washing myriads of locusts into the river and contaminating the only available source of drinking water. The plague is gradually leaving Jhelum, but the effects of its ragaves are only now beginning to be felt. Vegetables, even at the most exorbitant prices, are no longer obtainable; and except for a very few species of shrub, there is scarcely a green leaf to be seen in the district. The water supply is very much contaminated; unless prompt measures are taken to clean out the wells an outbreak of disease is inevitable.

SAYS the *Pioneer*:—"With the fear of Lord George Hamilton's accession before his eyes Mr. Labouchere has come to the conclusion that "it would be only proper that an Indian Viceroy should vacate his post when there is a change of Ministry at home." It will be time enough to consider Lord George Hamilton's fitness for the Viceroyalty when it is vacant, and when his lordship is proposed for it; but even a mediocre Viceroy with his tenure of office secure for a fixed period would be better than a genius at the mercy of the factions of English parties and the whims of the English electorate. Hitherto, as the last two instances sufficiently show, the appointment to the most important office under the Queen has been made irrespective of party consideration, and it is to be hoped that we may never witness a departure from so excellent a rule."

Saturday, 16th May.

MR. Edison is a strange man, and his practical jokes are not the least curious of his many scientific pranks. His latest humorous essay was an electric dinner party, given in honour of the members of the club which is composed of admirers of the great Benjamin Franklin. The dinner was held at Edison's factory and the chair was taken by a life size wax model of Franklin dressed just as he looked one hundred and fifty years ago. It was a figure that moved and spoke. A phonograph was concealed in the interior of the model, and Ben Franklin every now and then gave forth one of his famous moral axioms. The laboratory had been transformed from its work-a-day world appearance as if by magic. The guests sat down and were served with the first course. There was no *chef* employed. It was cooked by electricity and in fact so was everything, down to the coffee which was made over wires. The diners had no sooner got their teeth into samples from a deliciously stewed dish of oysters, when bang! out went the incandescent lights and darkness reigned. Then there appeared out of the shadows a couple of hideous grinning skulls. Their eyes shone fire, their mouths shot forth flames. Their jaws moved with a snapping like a crocodile's, and from their invisible throats there came forth two sepulchral voice in unision:

"As ye are now so once were we;
As we are now so ye shall be."

Of course the mechanism of the thing was afterwards explained, but the apparition of the grinning skulls was ghastly in the extreme.

THE lights were turned up again and another course was introduced. All unsuspecting, the various guests began to enjoy the viands cooked by electricity. All the time the old philosopher sat there smiling, imperturbed. And so the dinner went on. In the midst of it suddenly there burst forth from the phonograph the sound of a delicious voice. It was Mme. Adinin's of the Grand Opera in Paris. She sang a few notes, and then suddenly there merged into hers the deep notes of a rich basso. That was Melchissedec's. Together they were pouring forth the inspiring music of the Marseillaise." Next there came the booming of cannon, the thrilling notes of a grand bugle solo, with its echoes against the building of Paris, and finally a man's voice again making a graceful little address. You could hear the plaudits of a crowd, the "all hail" of a populace which was crying out as with one voice: "Vive la France!" "Vive la Republique"! "Vive Carnot!" By the dexterous placing of a phonograph the guests at the strange little dinner in America had been transported across the Atlantic, and were listening to the last closing exercises of the Paris Exhibition of 1889. The man's voice distinctly heard making a speech was M. Eiffel's.

IN place that a centre-piece would naturally occupy in an ordinary dinner, the lights suddenly went out again and a strange thing happened. Near the middle of the table there had been throughout the dinner a great globe of gold fishes through which flashed the varied coloured lights that had been turned on from time to time. All of a sudden, the globe became illumined with a monochrome. In the globe of glass were seen swimming about the little live fishes of gold or silver, which were illuminated internally by electricity. All the anatomy of the shiny fishes was plainly discernible. And they swam and swam about as if nothing more unusual had occurred than was natural with the finny folk. So the dinner went on, and with every course, with every other minute, some strange, uncanny thing was done by the magical intervention of electricity. Over in a corner of the place there had been fixed a kite, which everyone had supposed was a part of the decorations. But it had a special purpose, and when towards the end of the dinner the room was darkened, this wired, waxen image, by some incantation of Mr. Edison, repeated the experiment, famous to every schoolboy, by which electricity was first discovered.

MR. Mervyn Smith, a well-known Municipal Commissioner of Bangalore, is said to have ascertained that in Chota Nagpore, as Mysore, numerous old mines exist all over the country, affording evidence, that in by-gone days, prospecting for gold was undertaken on an extensive scale.

LORD SALISBURY'S Government intend, it is believed, to make provision for the definite filling up of the seat in the Bombay High Court, formerly held by Mr. Justice Scott, by appointing a Barrister from England, who is supposed to have earned an Indian Judgeship by party services.

THE India Office has granted Mr. Arthur Crawford, late of the Bombay Civil Service, a pension of one hundred and fifty pounds per annum.

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The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MAY 18, 1891.

THE MANIPUR AFFAIR.

IT is naturally to be expected that with the lapse of time many dark, and doubtful points in connection with the Manipur Affair will have light thrown upon them by the discovery of new facts, and the supply of new information. We have throughout been maintaining that the conduct of the Juvaraj towards Mr. Quinton and his party was of an extremely treacherous and inhuman character, for which any punishment inflicted upon him would not be a sufficient atonement. But, during the course of the last week, we have received an account of the murder of Mr. Quinton and his party, which not only states precisely the way in which they were murdered, but greatly lessens the Juvaraj's responsibility for that most heinous crime. An eye-witness gives the following details of that affair : "After entering the palace enclosure on the truce being sounded, the party proceeded to the Durbar-room and sat there for over an hour with the Juvaraj, the Maharaja not being present, trying to come to terms ; but failing, the whole party again left the Durbar, the Juvaraj turning to the right into the palace, and Mr. Quinton's party turning to the left towards the Residency. The party having gone some little way, seeing a large and threatening crowd in front of them, turned back hastily into the Durbar room, the crowd following. As they were going up the steps, a man rushed forward and speared Mr. Grimwood, who was last, in the side, and he fell. The rest were pushed into the Durbar room by one of the ministers. After about half an hour, they were turned out of the room, and proceeded through the first gate to the open space by the dragons, where they were rushed upon and killed." This account will make two things clear to our readers. First, that the murder of Mr. Quinton and his party was not deliberately plotted by any one man, but was the rash act of an infuriated mob, unaccompanied by any of those circumstances of cruelty and torture which speculators were delighted to indulge in at first. Secondly, that the Juvaraj had apparently very little to do with the murder, as he neither gave any order to that effect, nor was present on the spot where it was committed. Notwithstanding this, it must be admitted that a constructive responsibility for the murder will always attach to the Juvaraj, as the recognised leader of the Manipur Army. He it was whose magic wand could in a moment have pacified them, as it had in a moment infuriated them. But the responsibility that will thus attach to him is far less than what would attach to him, if he had himself given the order for the murder, or had seen it carried on underneath his eyes. This is a circumstance, which, we doubt not, will be carefully enquired into by the Commission of Enquiry at the trial of the Juvaraj, should it ever take place.

The way in which the *Englishman* has been attempting to vindicate the policy of our Government in connection with the arrest of the Juvaraj in open durbar is amusing and fallacious in the extreme. Our contemporary's chief argument is that all adverse criticisms of the Government policy proceed from a misconception of the nature of a Durbar. A durbar is not, says he, a "semi-private assembly" or "a garden-party" ; but "a Court or State reception," a tribunal from which the decrees of authority are promulgated." Thanking our contemporary for this edifying description of a Durbar, which, however, was not much needed, we must freely admit our utter inability to perceive how this description can in any way help to put the Government policy in a better light. The sum and substance of the argument is that a conduct which one might call treacherous when pursued in a private assembly, would not be so when resorted to in an open public assembly like a durbar. Still shortly, private morality is a thing quite different from political morality. We are orientals, low in morals and immersed in intellectual darkness ; we may possibly fail to perceive the high moral tone and irresistible logic that underlie our worthy contemporary's argument. But if this be the type of Ethics and Dialectics that we are to learn from the Westerns, we devoutly pray that we may be saved from our friends. We despise and denounce that system of thought which divorces private morality from political considerations. A Durbar may be "a tribunal from which decrees of State are promulgated." But here was a Durbar called, not for promulgating a decree of State, but for carrying the same into execution. It is this part, and this part only, of the plan which was reprehensible No amount of shifting or shuffling, sophism or quibbling, can take away from this part, its mean and treacherous character. It stands self-condemned.

With a greater show of decency and reason than displayed in the above argument, the same contemporary further attempts to justify the late interference of the Government with Manipur affairs, on the alleged ground of Manipur being, not an independent, but a feudatory State. In a previous issue of this journal, we maintained, on the basis of certain treaties, that Manipur was to all intents and purposes an independent territory. Even granting for a moment and for the sake of argument, that Manipur is a feudatory State, enough room is still left for doubt, as to how far the interference of the Government was justified, seeing that the recent change of Government at Manipur was a quiet one, unaccompanied by any of those circumstances of oppression and bloodshed, which afford the usual plea for interference with feudatory States.

Parliament was, during the last week, the scene of a little agitated talk on Manipur affairs. Colonel Nolan asked the Under-Secretary of State for India, whether his attention had been drawn to the statement in the *Times*, that all villages in Manipur which offered resistance were to be burned ; whether the Secretary of State for India would enjoin on Commanders of columns, that no village should be burned for offering resistance, unaccompanied by cruelty to the wounded or to prisoners, or by treachery on the part of that particular village ; and whether it was the custom, in waging war on the frontier States of India, to depart from the usual customs of civilised war, without the personal sanction of the Empress of India. Sir J. Gorst in reply said, that no official account of the operations of the troops at Manipur had been received by the Secretary of State, but he had the fullest confidence that the Government of India would act with due regard to the principles of justice and mercy, which were always observed in their Indian frontier wars. On this, Colonel Nolan asked the Right Honorable gentleman to be a little more explicit in his answer. Was he prepared to deny the statement given in the *Times ?* Did he deny that the statement was founded on facts? And if it was founded on facts, was he prepared to leave it to chance whether those villages were to be burned down or not, the people probably being engaged only in defending their houses ? He desired an explicit answer as to whether orders would be given that villages should not be burned down except where it might be necessary under the rules of civilised warfare. Sir. John replied that the Secretary of State would not assume that the Government of India would act improperly. He would rather assume that they would act properly, and would take no steps until evidence was given to the contary. Colonel Nolan again asked the Right Honorable gentleman to say whether or not it would be improper, if the Column in this expedition acted in a different manner from that in which a German column would probably act against France in a European war. Sir John Gorst replied :—"Yes, certainly." The solicitude shown by Colonel Nolan for the welfare and safety of the innocent people of Manipur, whose only fault was their self-defence, is truly befitting him as a generous-minded Englishman.

In the House of Lords, Viscount Cross, in reply to a question put by Lord Ripon, said that he had received a telegram from the Viceroy of India, in which His Excellency stated that there was no foundation for the report, that he had offered a reward for the capture of those concerned in the massacre at Manipur, dead or alive. Baron de Worms replying to a question in the Commons, said that the Chief Commissioner of Burmah had issued a proclamation offering rewards for the capture of the Manipur Regent and others, if they entered Burmah.

The Manipur Regent was arrested on the 8th instant by some Manipuris sent out by Major Maxwell and is now a prisoner under a Military guard. He had been hard pressed by Lieutenant Clay's party of the 43rd Goorkhas under Captain Dun. The latter has sent in the following arms found in the jungle :—Two Martini rifles, one double barrel express recognised as belonging to the late Leiutenant Simpson, one sporting Snider, one westley-Richards, one presentation rifle given by the Viceroy in 1872, and a quantity of miscellaneous ammunition. Lieutenant Clay's party moved to Chasand on the 11th instant, where a party of 50 Manipuris had been sent by Major Maxwell to search for the Senapati and other Princes. Lieutenant Clay's party, under Captain Dun, will act independently as circumstances require. Messengers are being sent in to the Upper Chindwin Valley to let the people there know of the rewards offered, and to stop the fugitives, if possible. Lieutenant Cox is doing as well as his severe wound permits. Lieutenant Grant has recovered. Captains Drury and Carnegy left on the 5th instant for Kohima. The men under Major Maxwell, Chief Political Officer, with the Silchar Column, have captured Ayia Garel, a Major in the Manipuri army and minister of the Durbar. Other imporiant arrests are expected in a few days. The trial of the prisoners was to have commenced on the 11th. The Regent was to be tried later in the week. No news has as yet been received of the Senapati. Mr. Sappitt, Political Officer with the mounted Police, left Manipur on the 4th instant in search of the Juvaraj, who was believed to be near. No news has as yet been received of Mr. Sappitt and his party. The Viceroy has received an intimation from Her Majesty the Queen Empress that she desires that the relatives of the victims of the Manipur outrage should be made aware of her Majesty's deep sympathy with them in their affliction. The Tammu Column was broken up on the 9th instant. Half of the King's Royal Rifles left Tammu by country boat for Kendat on the 6th and the remainder on the 7th. It is to be regretted that a somewhat severe attack of cholera visited the King's Royal Rifles. Eleven cases occurred among them on the 5th and 6th, and about six have died. We will review the Manipur papers published in the *Gazette* in our next.

THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

III.

REFERRING to the easy method, provided by its rules for ordinary membership, of increasing the revenues of the Association, we asked the question in our last, "What is it that prevents its adoption?" One word, in our opinion, furnishes the answer to this serious question, and that is, ignorance. Though the idea of the Association was broached so early as 1869, though the Association was not established till after half a dozen years' discussion of the project in public prints, and especially in these columns, and though it has been in actual working existence for fifteen years, there are yet people, strange to say, who are ignorant of that very existence. Of those who are well aware of its existence there are very few who are not ignorant of its scope, its aim and objects ; and fewer still who are not ignorant of the requirements of a scientific institute. It is this three-fold ignorance which has been seriously in the way of the advancement of the Association.

It is only the other day that a contemporary, commenting on the speech of Sir Charles Elliott at its annual meeting, wrote as follows : "The Association is doubtless useful in its way, as it enables the students of private educational

institutions to hear lectures on Chemistry and Electricity. But what other good purpose has the Association, with its very large capital, served till now? The cause of Physical Science owes much to Dr. Sircar, but we must say, his Association cultivates that science in one or two of its branches only. The Association has most influential patrons, and it is, therefore, in its power to be much more useful to the people than it has hitherto been. Why not convert the Science Association Hall into the Calcutta Technical Institute? Surely, there cannot exist insuperable difficulties in the way. Already large funds exist for a purpose like that. All that is wanted is the consent of Dr. Sircar and his friends. We simply throw out this suggestion to-day, and will pause to watch how and in what spirit it will be taken up or rejected." We are almost afraid to comment on the above suggestion, lest we be charged with rejecting it in an ungenerous spirit. But in the interests of the Association with which we believe the dearest interests of the country are involved, we are constrained to say our say on the subject. In the first place we would observe that it would have been fairer and wiser if our contemporary, before cirticizing the working of an institution which is heroically struggling for existence with the scantiest means of subsistence, had endeavoured to acquaint himself with the facts in connection with the Association, and above all taken the trouble to acquaint himself with the expenses of the humblest scientific institution, not to speak of the big polytechniques, of Europe.

Our contemporary speaks of the *very large capital* which the Association has in its possession. This very large capital is constituted by the eighty thousand and four hundred rupees which the Association has invested in Government securities yielding the very large income of Rs. 294 a month! With this capital and this monthly income our contemporary wishes the Science Association to convert its lecture hall into the Calcutta Technical Institute! He does not see any insuperable difficulties in the way, for "all that is wanted is the consent of Dr. Sircar and his friends." Certainly, Dr. Sircar must be a very perverse man not to give his own consent and procure the consent of his friends for such an easy conversion of his lecture hall into a technical institute. Poor Dr. Sircar! How is he being misjudged and misunderstood by his compatriots who ought to have known better, and who, if they had taken the trouble to know better, would have, we doubt not, zealously earnestly and substantially seconded his untiring efforts in the cause of science cultivation in this country. The Association has certainly "most influential patrons," without whose liberal, and in many cases truly princely, patronage it could not have been started into existence, far less could it have been advanced to its present position. But we cannot help saying, though we say so with deep regret, that to the great misfortune of the country the influential patrons almost without exception have persuaded themselves into the belief that their duty had ended with the paying down of their subscriptions. There is scarcely an influential patron whom Dr. Sircar has not taken on the Committee of Management. But the meetings of this Committee are very rarely favored with the dust of their feet. If they had attended these meetings, if they had attended the lectures delivered year after year by the honorary lecturers, they could have convinced themselves of the actual requirements of the Association, and then they would have felt a genuine affection for it and would not have suffered it to pine for want of proper nourishment.

Dr. Sircar is not, as he has been persistently represented or rather misrepresented to be, an opponent of technical education. The object, with which the Association was established, was, to quote the words of the very first Resolution founding the institution, "to enable the natives of India to cultivate science in all its departments with a view to its advancement by original research, and (as it will necessarily follow) with a view to its varied applications to the arts and comforts of life." Thus, as Dr. Sircar has very justly said, "the founders of the Association were not only not unmindful of technical education, but fully understanding its importance and its requirements, they wanted to place it on a solid and substantial footing, that is, on the basis of a preliminary scientific education." Again: "Those, who have carefully considered the avowed object with which this Association was established, must have seen that not only purely scientific but technical education was embraced in its wide scope. The management of the Association has not hitherto been able to direct attention to the latter for the simple reason that preliminary scientific education must precede technical education, and that before making provision to establish the former on a secure basis, it would be madness to waste energy and fritter away funds for the mere name of technical education." Dr. Sircar has in this matter, the support of the highest authorities on the subject. Scott Russel, one of the most earnest advocates of technical education, has put it emphatically that "Science is the sole foundation of skill. Above the skilled doers we must have the skilled thinkers." The Royal Commission on Technical Education have come to the conclusion that, "if instruction (in technical schools) is to be really useful, it must be made as thorough and scientific as possible. The indifferent technical school will soon be found out, despised, and deserted." Dr. Sircar, therefore, is perfectly justified in asking, "if this is likely to be the case in England, what must it be here in India?" and in giving it out as his strongest conviction that "scientific education must permeate the country, belore technical education would be even possible."

We are at one with our contemporary so far that if Calcutta is to have, as it is very desirable that it should have, a Technical Institute, that institute should be a part and parcel of theScience Association. We say this not from any partiality for the Association, but for reasons of economy, which have been so well put by Dr. Sircar, that we quote his words. "The funds required for carrying on technical education," says he, "must be adequately large, or failure must be the result. With inadequate funds, there may be a mockery and name of technical education, but not technical education properly so called. The humblest institution for imparting technical instruction even on a single subject of art or branch of industry must have a good collection of scientific instruments and apparatus and a laboratory for teaching the elementary principles of Science, that is, must have what the Scienec Association already has and what it still wants to have. Hence, in the present state of the country, to attempt to establish a separate and distinct institution for technical education would be, to say the least of it, uneconomical." The inevitable and indisputable conclusion from this is what Dr. Sircar has drawn, "that as the Science Association has for one of its objects the carrying on of Technical Education, any contribution to the Association, would in reality be a contribution to the cause of Technical Education." We have a very great respect for our contemporary as a zealous patriot and as a sincere and candid man who will not for the sake of consistency persist in error if convinced of it. We have, therefore, every confidence that he will not hesitate to lend his advocacy to any cause which tends to the good of the country, but which he might mistakenly have supposed to be otherwise. We believe we have been able to convince him that if the Science Association has not yet done anything for technical education, it is because of want of funds, and not from any reluctancy and opposition from Dr. Sircar himself, whom we quote again to make things more clear. Having said, as already given above, that "scientific education must permeate the country, before technical education would be even possible," he goes on: "I do not say, that it is altogether beyond the range of possibility that the two may not be made to go side by side, or rather, that technical education may not be made to follow closely upon the heels of scientific education. But before thinking of realizing this possibility, consider the amount of money that would be necessary to bring about the desired result. Archimedes could move the earth if he had a lever of sufficient length. The Committee of Management of the Science Association would, I believe, be able to make thorough scientific and thorough technical education a reality even in this country, if sufficient funds were placed at their disposal." Can we expect that our worthy contemporary will now use his powerful pen in favor of the Science Association to enable it to command the necessary funds in order that it may efficiently carry on within its walls scientific education both in its abstract and practical aspects?

THE ECONOMICAL ASPECT OF THE CENSUS FIGURES.

SIR JAMES CAIRD, the greatest living authority on agricultural matters in England, has addressed to the London *Times* a letter in which he discusses the economic aspect of the Indian Census figures. Sir James, it will be remembered, visited this country ten years ago as a member of the Famine Commission, and took much pains to acquire a thorough knowledge of its condition. On return to England he submitted a special report on the agriculture of India to the Secretary of State in which he pointed out that the population of the country increased at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum. The correctness of this conclusion was questioned by the Government of Lord Lytton, or, in other words, by Sir John Strachey, who was then the *de facto* Governor General of India in all matters relating to the internal administration of the empire. Sir John thought that there was no absolute certainty regarding the normal increase of population in India, but that it might be taken at a little over ½ per cent. yearly. At this rate the increase in the last ten years would now have been 11 millions, but the actual increase by the census recently completed is 22 millions. The correctness of Sir James Caird's estimate has now been conclusively established. In his letter under notice he writes:—"At this rate, in ten years more, the mere increase for these 20 years in India will exceed the whole population of the United Kingdom ten years hence. The first duty, therefore, of the Indian statesman is to carry out a policy under which the people may be enabled to provide themselves with food. All precautions to preserve life must have for their object measures which will keep the means of subsistence on a par with the increase of population." There can be no doubt whatever that the moral of the census figures is the urgent necessity of determined effort on the part of the Government to grapple with the problem of increasing the food supply of the country. The first duty of Indian statesmen, says, Sir James Caird, is to secure an increase of the means of subsistence proportional to the growth of population.

The question naturally arises, How can the problem stated above be solved? Sir James Caird says:—"I believe it possible to obtain such a gradual increase of production in India as would meet the wants of the increasing population for many years to come. But the system of agriculture must be converted from an exhaustive to a restorative one. This must be achieved unless we are prepared to leave the surplus population to be periodically cut down by famine to the numbers which their imperfect agriculture can maintain. * * * The people now increase at about two-and-a-quarter millions a year. This increase may be provided for by two methods, one by a progressive increase in the area of cultivated land, and the other by a gradually increasing produce from the land at present cultivated. Under these two methods it should not be difficult that one bushel per acre of increase in every ten years should be obtained. And, if a proportionate rate of increase could be continued in each decade the increasing population could be fed. Each acre instead of maintaining one person, would thus become capable of maintaining two. The increase of population might be thus safely met for a lengthened period, and upon this the success of the future Government of India must mainly depend." Now, as regards the first method suggested by Sir James Caird namely, a progressive increase in the area, under cultivation, we fear it cannot be

carried out to any large extent. Sir James himself, in his report on the condition of India of which mention has been made above, thus wrote on this point :—" The available good land in India is nearly all occupied. There are extensive areas of good waste land, covered with jungle in various parts of the country, which might be reclaimed and rendered suitable for cultivation, but for that object capital must be employed, and the people have little to spare. * * It is unsafe to break up more of the uncultivated poor land. The diminution of pasture thereby already caused is showing its effect in a lessening proportion of working cattle for an increasing area of cultivation." These observations made by Sir James Caird ten years ago clearly show that the area of land under cultivation in India cannot be increased to any large extent.

The other method suggested by Sir James Caird for increasing the food supply of the country is a better management of the cultivated area. He thinks that in many parts of India land is undergoing gradual deterioration. The Indian bureaucrat does not admit that this is the case ; but there can be no doubt whatever as to the soundness of Sir James Caird's view. Of course in the deltaic districts of Bengal the soil cannot be exhausted, as its fertility is renewed every year by natural causes. But then we must not forget that Bengal proper is only a very small part of the continent of India. That a large portion of our cultivated land is gradually deteriorating in many parts of the country cannot be denied by any person conversant with the object. The productive power of the soil has in some cases been reduced to a minimum. Owing to the pressure of the land revenue assessment the cultivator cannot allow impoverished lands to lie fallow, and even canal irrigation which was intended to be a blessing has made vast tracts of land absolutely sterile. The late Colonel Corbelt, in his excellent work entitled *The Climate and Resources of Upper India*, states in plain terms as the result of his personal observation and experience that " canals and irrigation are doing more than anything else to destroy the agricultural prosperity of the country, and to reduce land formerly fertile to a state of sterility." This language is no doubt strong ; but there is not a syllable of exaggeration in it. In support of the position taken up by him, Colonel Corbelt extracts the following passage from the letter of an Indigo-planter, who writes :—" The produce in canal-irrigated lands, in my opinion, will be worse yearly, what with sowing the same seed, and with this constant cropping and flooding the lands are being thoroughly exhausted. I remark yearly a great falling off of leaf, and this, by the bye, appears to be increasing. Canal plant increasing too quickly ; it is, in fact, forced, and it consequently cannot draw sufficient support from the soil fast enough to keep pace with its rapid growth." The gradual deterioration of the cultivated land in India, as Sir James Caird points out, can only be stopped by converting the system of agriculture from an exhaustive to a restorative system. Sir Edward Buck and his disciples would have us believe that the ignorance or conservatism of the Indian cultivator stands in the way of his making any attempts to increase the produce of his lands. But who are acquainted with the facts would have no hesitation whatever in saying that this view is utterly erroneous. The Indian ryot knows very well the value of manure, of rest to the soil, and of rotation of crops ; but poor fellow, what is he to do with his knowledge ? He has not the means to put knowledge into practice. It is all very well to say that the Indian ryot is conservative and will not depart from the ways of his fathers. But the simple truth is that he is always ready to adopt any new crop or any improved method which pays and which is within his means. This has been proved to demonstration by experience. Of course, the ryot whose means are limited and whose object is to produce a satisfactory balance sheet, cannot afford to lose by a risky experiment. It must be remembered that the ryot does not farm to advance science or solve the problems of agricultural chemistry, but to live. Because he does not unhesitatingly follow the advice of irresponsible theorists and adopt the experiments of which the model farms of India are the scene, he is denounced for his ignorance and conservatism. Those who are acquainted with the facts, however, know that the ryot is neither ignorant nor conservative, but that the adoption of improved methods of cultivation is utterly beyond his means. Sir James Caird thus concludes his letter :—" It is not necessary that I should now enter on the various topics which were discussed in my report to the Secretary of State in 1880. But I entirely adhere to the opinion there expressed, that a Government such as ours in India, should offer every facility for changing the tenure from leasehold to free-hold, both because it can be done without loss, and when done, that change would enlist the willing help of the most industrious class in improving the yield of the land, and unite their interests with that of rulers through whom alone their possession would be assured." This valuable suggestion was made more than ten years ago and nothing has as yet been done to give effect to it. If the system of agriculture is to be converted from an exhaustive to a restorative system, the boon of a permanent settlement should be conferred on the people throughout the length and breadth of the country.

THE SHAMBAZAR RIOT.

THERE was a serious riot in Shambazar, in the Northern Division of the Town. It originated, we learn, in this manner :

One Sreenath Mitter sold 10 Cottahs of land to Suresh Chunder Dev, in August 1889, for Rs. 4,000. There were two tenants on the land in question, named Khairu and Alyar. The purchaser, Suresh, called on the two ryots to execute kabuliuts. The former, Khairu, complied ; but the latter refused. The purchaser, Suresh, was then compelled to institute an ejectment suit against the recalcitrant ryot, Alyar, before the second Sub-Judge of Alipur. The defendant pleaded that there was a mosque on the disputed land ; that it was a public property ; and that it was held rent-free.

The case was fully gone into by the Sub-Judge, who on the 30th April last, delivered judgment in plaintiff's favor, declaring that the land in dispute was not a public place of worship and was not held rent-free. It was further ordered by the Court that the defendant, Alyar, should remove his building-materials within fifteen days from the date of judgment. The time allowed by the Court expired on the 15th instant, and the defendant, instead of appealing against the Sub-Judge's order, collected on the 16th all the bad characters of Hathi Bagan, Balliaghata, Manictollah, Fool Bagan, Entally, Baniapookur, Tanti-Bagan, Chitpore and Cossipur. About 11 o'clock of the same day, a force of some 2,000 men, armed with sticks, was mustered to offer resistance for the protection of the mosque ; and the traffic on the Circular Road, between Fariapukar Sreet and Hati Bagan corner, was stopped. The decree had not been executed, and up to date no attempt was made to enforce the Court's order.

Information having reached the Thanna, of the preparations made for an affray, the Divisional Superintendent, Babu Sreenath Pal, accompanied by a Mahomedan Inspector, named Yasuffuddin, proceeded to the spot, and explained to the mob that no attempt would be made to demolish the mosque ; but their assurance was unheeded, and they were attacked and severely beaten. The attack on the Police was entirely unprovoked. Before the arrival of Superintendent Sreenath Pal, information was conveyed to the Police head-quarters, whereupon Mr. Lambert, the Commissioner, and Mr. Barnard, the DeputyCommissioner, accompanied by Superintendent Johnston of the Reserve Force, Superintendent Robertson of the Detective Force, Superintendent Merryman of the Town Police, proceeded to the spot, with a number of European Police, foot and mounted, to explain to the people that everything reasonable would be given to them ; but they were met with a volley of brickbats and were very roughly handled. They had to retire, but they kept the rioters at bay, and protected the surrounding houses against the depredations of some of the budmashes of Benares and other upcountry places, who were amongst the mob and showed a disposition to loot the houses. Superintendents Robertson and Merryman were severely wounded, and the former had to be carried to hospital in a state of unconsciousness. Mr. Barnard was sent to the Fort for Military assistance, and 250 men with 20 rounds of ammunition, left the Fort under command of Major Ommaney, with six officers. The Magistrate of Alipore was telephoned, and he immediately sent the Joint Magistrate of Sealdah to the spot.

In the meanwhile, however, reinforcements of the Police, already ordered by Mr. Lambert before leaving head-quarters, arrived, and with their aid another attempt was made to arrest and disperse the rioters. The men were led by the Commissioner in person. This attempt was partially successful. It was necessary to make another rush with the main body of the Police. This time a small body was detached to take the rioters in flank. Now the rioters turned tail, and were broken up ; but they dispersed and 112 arrests were made. In the affray, one constable was mortally wounded and died shortly after his admission to hospital. The troops were near the Medical College when they were met by the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Barnard, who informed the Officer Commanding that their services were no longer required, as the riot was quelled, and so they had to return to the Fort.

The scene of the disturbance is strongly guarded by the Police, and there is no sign of further disturbances occurring. About 3 P. M. on Saturday, peace was restored and the path was cleared. The conduct of the Police, both rank and file, was exemplary on this occasion, considering that the mob numbered 2,000 men in a state of frenzy. We regret to state that both the Commissioner and theEuropean Police received some hard knocks.

We are very sorry to hear that Yasuffudin has lost one of his eyes permanently, and that Superintendent Merryman is suffering from an apoplectic fit. The casualties must create a sudden blank in the upper rank of the Police Force, which cannot but be severely felt. Besides the European officers named above, one native officer and eight men are in Hospital, badly hurt. Of the rioters one man died in Hospital, and about 20 are detained for treatment,

We are informed that SuperintendentJohnston and Inspector Ingleton specially distinguished themselves in putting down the affray. Their services, we feel sure, will be duly acknowledged by the Commissioner.

Latest News and Notes.

SIR CHARLES ELLIOTT has been giving himself no rest even in the Darjeeling retreat. After his fashion, His Honor undertook a short tour in Sikim which commenced on Tuesday. He arrived at Gnatong on the 15th instant, and at Pedong the next day returning by way of Kalimpong on the 19th, and reaching Darjeeling on the following day.

THE weather cooled down pleasantly enough for a time. We had welcome showers on Sunday before last and on Tuesday which brought relief to scorched humanity, though they appreciably interfered with the gay doings in connection with fashionable weddings, of which there were many on the first mentioned day. The heat, however, again, is as great as ever. The schools and Colleges have been closed.

SHARKS and alligators are infesting the Hooghly very much, making a pleasant river bath impossible. Several noteworthy captures have taken place, though the raid against humanity continues unabated.

A THOROUGHLY representative and successful meeting of the Hindu inhabitants of Calcutta and the suburbs was held at the house of the late Raja Rajendra Mullick Bahadur, on Sunday before last, to organise measures for raising funds towards the repairs of the Temple of Jagannath at Puree. Among those present were Maharajah Bahadur Sir Jotendra Mohun Tagore, K. C. S. I., the Hon'ble Justice Guru Dass Banerjee, Babus Jadu Lall Mullick, Girendro Narain Ghose, Chandi Lall Sing, and Kumar Debendro Mullick. Raja Rajendranarain Deb took the Chair, on the motion of Maharaja Bahadur Sir Jotendro Mohun Tagore K. C. S. I. A strong Committee was appointed to raise funds for the repairs with Rai Rajkumar Sarvadhikari Bahadur and Babu Madhu Sudan Dutt as Joint-Secretaries. Three lakhs of rupees are urgently needed for the repairs which inspite of the unsympathetic remarks of a Christian contemporary, should not take long in raising, considering that pilgrims from all parts of India visit the holy shrine. Babu Jadulal Mullick, who visited the temple four years ago, very properly suggested that this opportunity should be taken to respectfully invite Government to improve the sanitation of Puree, which is sadly neglected and which accounts for heavy mortality among pilgrims every year.

THE first meeting of the Legislative Council at Simla held on Thursday last was of a formal character. Sir Alexander Miller and General Brakenbury took their seats and the different Select Committees were reconstituted. It was announced that the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Bill and the Bankers Books Evidence Bill would soon be passed. The Bill to declare certain Courts in British India to be Colonial Courts of Admiralty was introduced by Sir A. Miller, and was passed into law. The main object of the Bill is to declare certain Courts in India having unlimited civil jurisdiction to be Colonial Courts of the Admiralty in pursuance of the English Act of 1890, so far as the Admiralty and Vice-Admiralty jurisdictions of the Indian Courts are concerned.

IT is stated that on Wednesday next Mr. Justice Wilson goes to Darjiling on one month's leave. During His Lordship's absence there will be but one Court sitting on the Original side, presided over by Mr. Justice Hill. Justice Wilson has well earned his holidays, which it may be hoped will renovate his spirit and health. There never was any occasion for the double Court, as the general breakdown of the second board almost every day plainly shows. Justice Trevelyan is working at home on the Original side rules, which are to be thoroughly revised. Before final acceptance they ought to be published for general information and suggestions by the profession.

THE Calcutta Corporation had a general meeting on Thursday last when Commissioners were elected to serve on the General Committee during the year. Among the elected Commissioners were, Moulvi Budoruddin Hyder, and Babu Gonesh Chunder Chunder, Mr. N. N. Ghose, Mr. J. Ghosal, Babus Kallynath Mitter, Lal Behary Bysak, Norendra Nath Sen, Nolin Behary Sircar, Okhil Chunder Mukerji, Preonath Mallik, Surendranath Bannerji, and Mr. Swinhoe. Among the nominated Commissioners the following were elected :—Nawab Abdul Latif, Moulvi Aga Mohamed Mehdi, Babus Durgagati Bannerji and Joygobind Law, Maharaja Bahadur Sir Narendra Krishna, K. C. I. E. and Mr. R. H. M. Rustomji. The task of allotting Members for the several Standing Committees has been left to the General Committee. Infusion of new blood every year into these Committees is very desirable and Commissioners willing to work on them should have a chance of serving their constituents. Instead of this the same *leaders* or prominent men are in all the Committees which naturally they cannot attend, while willing volunteers who would be more useful are left out in the shade. To obviate these difficulties Babu Kally Nath Mitter very properly proposed a small but strong and representative Committee to make the allotments; but the General Committee would not part with its rights and privileges.

THE public squares of Calcutta, at least some of them, are not models of cleanliness and convenience. Loud and frequent complaints are made with regard to them, which are little heeded by the Municipal authorities. The Chairman of the Corporation has been moved with regard to the Cornwallis Square and probably something will be done. The College Square and the Wellington Square are in no better condition and they too might be taken in hand. We notice that the temporary bamboo and cloth mosque in the latter has been removed.

INFLUENZA is committing havoc in China and thousands of people are being carried off every day. In Great Britain its virulence though not quite so great, is much felt and as an index it is stated that nearly a hundred members of Parliament are confined to bed. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is also suffering from a slight attack.

THE *Times* announces that Portugal has virtually accepted Lord Salisbury's final proposals for the settlement of the African question, Great Britain conceding fifty thousand square miles of territory north of the Zambesi to Portugal, and receiving in return the greater part of Manicaland.

WE note with pleasure that the Sobhabazar Sporting Club is steadily maintaining and adding to its prestige. They defeated the East Surrey Regiment in a hotly contested football match not long ago and last week they added another and a yet more brilliant feather to their cap. On Wednesday they had a match with the Attached Team of Fort William and they came off victorious again. The Attached Team is considered a very strong one, being picked men from various regiments. The Sova Bazar Club played excellently, and obliged their opponents to play entirely on the defensive. After some very good play the Sova Bazar Team made one goal against nil of the military. Some of the members of the club are also excellent cricketeers and tennis-players.

THE Directors of the Pioneer Glass Company, as will be seen elsewhere, have addressed a circular to the Shareholers recommending an increase to the original capital. The increase is said to have been proposed to meet the cost of the machinery for the manufactory. The Company's works at Tittaghur are approaching completion, The Company is said to be further engaged in opening up a new, and lucrative industry in Bengal. The enterprize of the Company is entirely new to India and will tend to largely develop the resources of the country both by reason of creating a market for raw material now lying idle, and of employing native labourers.

THE Benares rioting cases are dragging their slow length along. In the Telegraph Office case the jury have unanimously acquitted seven of the accused. Of the others the jury were unanimous in finding two guilty, and by a majority convicted six of rioting and dacoity, and sentences ranging from fourteen to seven years' transportation have been passed by the Judge. A sweeper boy, convicted on the minor count of having possession of some clothes plundered from the Telegraph Master, was sentenced to thirty stripes. Some disturbance was apprehended on the occasion of the Mahomedan festival of Eed and troops were held in readiness against any contingency that might arise. Nothing, however, happened and everything passed off quietly.

NO disturbance took place at Miranzai during the Eed festival. The latest news from General Lockhart states that all the Government property has now been returned. A Samil Jirgah was received on the 9th instant, and all accounts with them were settled. A fine of Rs. 1,000 was imposed on the Anella Khel, and the Mishtis were informed that the British troops would destroy all the towers at Kandi Mishti and inflict chastisement on the tribes if they offered any resistance. The Jirgah complied submissively to all the conditions. The Afridis seem to be settling down, and the work on Gulistan has been commenced.

WE much regret to hear that Mr. Gladstone has been seized with a sudden fit of shivering and has since been confined to his room, which Sir Andrew Clark has forbidden him to leave for several days. He still continues feverish, but is otherwise progressing.

A GOVERNMENT decree has been issued at Lisbon, granting a delay of sixty days in meeting all obligations, owing to the great run upon the banks there, and the consequent heavy demands made by the banks upon the Bank of Portugal. The decree has created a widespread panic and the financial troubles in Portugal gravely affected the London and Foreign Exchanges, and a semi-panic set in on the London Exchange owing to disturbing rumours regarding several important houses. Matters are, however, now settling down.

REUTER announces the death of Madame Blavatsky who was so long and so closely identified with the Theosophical movement in India. Her death will be a rude shock to the movement, which has not been particularly flourishing of late. A number of Theosophists and several Hindus were present at the cremation of her remains which took place at the Woking Crematory.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS VALUE AS A NUTRIENT FOR WEAKLY CHILDREN.—In cases of languid and imperfect nutrition often observed in children, the surprising efficacy of Dr. De Jongh's Oil is thus described by Dr. Edward Carey: "It is in the diseases incidental to childhood, that mainly depend on the mal-assimilation of the food in the pale cachectic child, when the anxious practitioner has exhausted the whole range of alteratives and tonics, that Dr. de Jongh's Cod Liver Oil will come in and satisfy his most sanguine expectations. Where the powers of life are low, it affords nourishment to the body when none other can be borne; it furnishes the frame with fat in a truly wonderful manner; and administered as it is in Holland, to the delicate and puny child, who though not considered ill, is in that state of impaired health which would favour the development of disease, its extraordinary effects will soon be visible, after having taken it for a short period, in a return to health and strength which were before unknown, and which will be accomplished by no other remedy with which we are acquainted. Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints pints and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co, 210, High Holborn, London,

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MEMORY. LOISETTE'S System. A Law Lecturer of King's College, London (J. H. Scaife, LL.B.), says (Jan., 1891): "Invaluable for examination purposes and as a sound training of the Memory." A Cambridge University Lecturer (Dr. R. N. Ingle, M.A.) was (Jan., 1890) "Much impressed with the possibilities of improvement to memory which the LOISETTE Lessons open up." "I derived great benefit for your leesons, though at first prejudiced against them by the misrepresentations of Mr. Appleby."—Dr. Geo. Herschell, Physician to the West End Hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System, London. "In three weeks I was able to memorise the names, &c., of 400 men."—Major Jamieson, Bengal S. C. "Excellent' travelling companion."—Capt J. B. Haye, R. N: "Wonderful aid to memory."—Mirza Sader-ud-din Khan. "Invaluable."—J. J. Francis, Q. B. "Does not involve much labour."—*Statesman*, 23rd Oct., 1887. "The audience (representative of the learned Professions) was most enthusiastic." *Glasgow Herald*, 5th March, 1891. Tremendously popular in Oxford."—*Pall Mall Gazette*, 4th Feb., 1890. Prospectus Free. One Pupil, Rs. 76; Ten pupils Rs. 19 each. Apply to F. Fisk-Williams, 71, Elliot Road, Calcutta; or to A. LOISETTE, 37, New Oxford Street, London, England.

Correspondence

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

London, April 17, 1891.

OPIUMOPHOBIA IN PARLIAMENT.

ON Friday last Sir Joseph Pease moved and carried by a vote of 160 to 130 the following motion.—"That this House is of opinion that the system by which the Indian opium revenue is raised is morally indefensible, and would urge upon the Indian Government that they should cease to grant licenses for the cultivation of the poppy and sale of opium in British India, except to supply the legitimate demand for medicinal purposes; that they should take measures at the same time to arrest the transit of Malwa opium through British territory." This having been done another resolution was proposed, and not carried but talked out, as a rider to the foregoing: "And this House feeling the pressure of taxation already too great upon the people of India will take steps to reimburse the deficiency so caused."

There were a number of sensible speeches made against the original motion but none of them was so cutting and sarcastic a commentary upon the combined unwisdom and cheap philanthropy of the promoters of it as this rider, put to the house without a speech, and left to produce by its own unaided force the effect which it was intended to have—that of a cold douche upon over-heated philanthropists, who shudder when they are asked to pay out of their own pockets for their pet schemes of benevolence.

What will be done? The house stands pledged to the position that the Indian Government is carrying on an iniquitous system of raising its revenue and that cultivating poppies is morally indefensible. The persons who have persuaded it of this also admit that unless the house makes up the deficiency the iniquity cannot possibly be put an end to without the gre[illegible] iniquity being incurred of taxing beyond endura[illegible] an already over-taxed and impoverished pe[illegible] Nevertheless it refuses to pay for its own virtue. [illegible] has had its shudder at the iniquity: now it shudd[illegible] at the expense of clearing its conscience. It will [illegible] bably rely upon the moral effect "which its decis[illegible] will have upon the Government of India as we [illegible] told; the area of the cultivation of the iniquit[illegible] poppy will be more and more restricted until no [illegible] poppies shall be grown except as many as may suffice [illegible] to furnish the chemist and druggist with the ing[illegible] dients of his prescriptions. Then we shall have [illegible] coerced the Indians [illegible] moved morali[illegible] on the Eur[illegible] to an improv[illegible]ty based [illegible]uropean or rather English model, whose superiority consists in the immense advantage of whisky drinking with its abundant *delirium tremens* over opium smoking. We shall have done this without any cost to ourselves and in the meantime, no doubt, as the Indians will have saved money from the abandonment of their pernicious luxury, some other way will be found of inducing them to make up the deficient revenue. It is all beautifully simple in India. There are people in England who want us to do away with our cherished whisky except for medicinal purposes and in homeopathic doses: but we get pleasure from our whisky on the whole even though it brings some of us to ruin our health, and our families, and even to cut our wives' throats, and even with these drawbacks we are not going to allow any body, whether Government or individuals, to compel us to take our whisky only as medicine.

We quite understand we are not going to make up the deficiency in India's revenue. To pay five or six millions a year is buying virtue at too high a price. Lord Hartington amongst others has asked the Government how they purpose to deal with the unfortunate dilemma Sir Joseph Pease has landed the House in, and Mr. Smith has taken time to consider. The result will be, it is thought, that counting on the likelihood of Philip sobered by his little bill being presented to him being more prudent than when Philip was inebriated with his exuberant self-righteousness on Friday night, ministers will devise a scheme for assisting him out of his difficulties. Sir Joseph Pease's motion will figure in the Government's own programme as an order of the day and the whole thing will be completely shelved so far as trouble to the English Parliament is concerned. Then we shall have washed our hands of the matter here and can watch complascently how you deal with it in India.

As the P. M. G. says a majority of the English House of Commons has aired its virtue at the expense of the Indian Exchequer. It has interfered to impose English ideas upon India and taken the power of decision, whilst it is not burdened with any of the responsibilities. And it adds "this as has for some time been foreseen, is one of the great dangers of Indian administration in the future, and constitutes one of the chief reasons why so many moderate men are in favour of extending as far as possible the principles of local self-Government to our Eastern dependency."

The "*Times*" at all events does not believe that we shall offer to take the responsibility of paying in this particular instance. It says—"It is not much to its credit as a business house that the motion was carried. The house has decreed offhand a reduction of four to five millions in the revenue of India without making the slightest attempt to say how the finances are to be adjusted. There was indeed some airy nonsense from Mr. Samuel Smith to the effect that the people of this country will be delighted to find it, and the author of the motion suggested with equal levity that the Ind an army should be proportionately reduced."

It further sums up the whole debate in a few very truthful words which exactly describe the impression produced upon the reader of speeches. "Of a serious business like treatment of a great financial question there was not a trace except in the speeches of the opponents of the motion."

But not only were the supporters of the motion open to this serious criticism but in every other respect their speeches were those of men imperfectly acquainted with the facts whether historical, social, or physiological upon which their case was supposed to be based. Upon point after point they were proved inaccurate; the strict parliamentary language, (which is sometimes not strong enough for the occasion) of Sir Richard Temple was at any rate the truth though in a wild form when he said that the speeches were remarkable for misapprehension of facts and unconscious and unintentional misrepresentations. The most charitable explanation is that they were suffering from opiumophobia which led them to exaggerate beyond all reason certain classes of facts which are unpleasant in connectiou with the use of opium as of many other things not nsed with discretion. Other classes of facts relating to its beneficial effects were as Dr. Farquharson pointed out were wholly overlooked and In a comparison made between opium and whisky he said all the credit would [illegible]ption of stimulants and [illegible] India was a model to [illegible] strict system of [illegible]lly guarded; [illegible]mperance [illegible]more [illegible]f

One of the [illegible] which I may mention as throwing light upon [illegible] traordinary state of mind in which these purgers of India approached the subject is the belief they seem to entertain that opium smoking is the great bar to the progress of Christianity! The missionaries seem to have persuaded them that their non-success is owing to this. People who will believe this will believe anything. We hear exactly the same thing here about alcoholic drinking; but it is too preposterous, and only men with one idea could entertain the notion. There is however so much opiumophobia amongst us arising chiefly from our dread of the unaccustomed that I dare say we might rank this, in all simplicity, as really one of the pernicious effects of the drug, if we had not been told the same about whisky with which we are much better acquainted.

IS MANIPUR TO BE ANNEXED?

Probably before this letter reaches you asking this question you may have had it answered; but at present at least, as I cannot look into futurity. I must be content with saying that there are decided signs of a movement to bring this matter forward and prepare the public mind for the proposition; and there is no doubt it could have a very favourable reception. The "*Times*" has had an article balancing the considerations for and against with every appearance of judicial calmness but with the very evident wish at bottom really to see its way to advocate annexation pure and simple. There have been letters in its columns from Sir J. Johnstone, who was for many years the Resident at Manipur, who, however, denies the justice or expediency of annexation in this particular instance although as a rule, he says, he is in favour of annexation when circumstances allow of that step being properly and justly taken. On the other hand, Sir George Campbell who declares himself usually against annexalion states his opinion that there are special reasons in the case of Manipur which make the policy of annexation more expedient if that policy shall also be found consistent with justice; and he thinks there is no obligation upon us to support the Maharajah who is at present in Calcutta and whose deposition we took no measures to avert twelve months ago. What seems specially to weigh with him as to the expediency of annexation is that Manipur from an "enclave" a detached piece of native territory in the midst of British territory. I dont know if Sir George intends to advise annexation in all cases where this argument would apply; speaking from memory I should suppose Manipur is not the only the state which would come under his principle. Sir Johnstone would support the fugitive Maharajah; as he points out that the massacre of our countrymen has been perpetrated by those from whom the Maharajah had to fly and that there is no suspicion of his having been engaged in it which, were it the case, would of course relieve us from any obligations under which we might be in regard to him.

The "*Times*" speaks cautiously and as if feeling its way in the matter. It says "The future destiny of the country is a wider question" (wider that is than that of what shall be done to bring the actors in the massacre to justice) to be judged dispassionately and upon political grounds the terrible crimes committed against us is certainto provoke a good deal of strong and very natural feeing both here and in India in favour of annexation. But question of politics, and in particular question of Indian politics, should not be decided under the guidance of strong feeling. There are valid arguments both for and against he inclusion of Manipur within our dominious; as the letters we have published from Sir George Campbell on the one side and Sir James Johnstone on the other prove; and it is upon an actual and deliberate consideration of reasons of State of this kind, and not upon the hasty impulse of passion, that the ultimate destiny of Manipur ought to be, and as we believe will be, determined. At present we are sending forces sufficient to crush out all resistance and exact retribution on the criminals and to enforce whatever measures may be necessary for the better government of the country."

Reading between the lines I think there is not much doubt that, however, demurely the "*Times*" speaks at present it is quite prepared at the suitable moment to declare itself an out and out annexationist, and it will be powerfully supported.

A MINIATURE GENERAL ELECTION,

A remarkable number of seats have become vacant within a short time. Last week I mentioned two of them. Since then there are five others; thus making seven for which elections will shortly be held. Moreover almost certainly several others are pending. This is really a striking state of matters and almost justifies the application to it of the term "miniature general election", which I have used; although really when [illegible]member that there are altogether six hundred [illegible]nty constituencies in all, these vacant seats [illegible] a small part of the contests which would [illegible]ght were the disolution of Parliament [illegible] But yet there is a certain importance [illegible] this cluster of bye-elections which [illegible] individual ones which spring up [illegible] It will be possible to [illegible] disadvantages to [illegible] [illegible]al election [illegible] sporadically here and there [illegible] strike a balance of advantages or [illegible] party or the other just as at a gener[illegible] though on a very small scale; and, however, Unionist writers with a lively fear that the disadvantages are likely to fall to them, may attempt to discount the results, and profess that no conclusion is to be drawn from bye-elections under any circumstances the winning side will certainly be more jubilant than if it merely won in a single-handed fight. It would not be in human nature not to do so even if political logic were stronger against it than really is the case.

I think I said last week that as far as the city of London is concerned the result is a foregone conclusion for the conservative candidate, whoever might be nominated for the seat. A decision had not been come to then as to who should stand but now after some four or five gentlemen have been talked of it is settled that all names are to be withdrawn in favour of a gentleman who although he has reached the ripe age of seventy two years will be sent to Parliament for the first time in his career, active and useful though it has long been to the conservative party in the city. The only objection to his candidature has been his age; and this he has taken himself; but now that he does not shrink from the task there is a complete unanimity of opinion that he is the best representative they could elect.

If the belief of the Gladstonians is correct, founded as it is upon the bye-elections which have been won during the last three or four years, that the defeats of 1886 were caused by abstentions from nothing on the part of Liberals who have since rallied to the Home Rule standard which in that year they refused to join, there is a very hopeful prospect that in two of the constituencies at least, Whitehaven and the Harborough Division, the decisions of 1886 will be reversed in favour of the Gladstonians as well as in that of the latest vacancy a Division of Suffolk where in 1810 the conservative candate was successful. So too it may be said that at Woodstock and Whitehaven though the fight may be keen and the majority on either side may be small, the Home Rule party have fair chances of success; and upon the whole it is not unlikely that the balance of victory will be in its favour. As I have

said before really Home Rule will be the test question in all these elections, however, either party may try to disguise the fact according as it may lose or win. Labour and other social questions may compluate the results somewhat, but generally speaking the advanced parties on these questions are also adherents of the Home Rule cause. The Gladstonians have put themselves on sympathetic terms with these parties and Home Rule and other advanced policies go together in such a manner that the triumph of one will be the triumph of the other.

THE GLADSTONIAN LEADERSHIP IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

There have been many rumours in reference to this matter, but as yet it is understood that nothing is settled except that in the meantime Lord Kimberley is to continue in temporary command. On Mr. Gladstone's return to Town for the resumed sittings of Parliament a meeting was held at his residence and it was thought that at any rate this would be one of the questions discussed and settled. Whether it was discussed or not we are now told that nothing was done and even that the meeting had no reference to the appointment of the new Opposition leader at all this is not very likely; though probably it is true that no formal decision is to be made on the subject at present. As I said last week the matter is not so simple as it might at first sight appear, there being other considerations of more than a merely temporary kind involved in it: and however interesting news of what took place might be we are not likely to be favoured with an account of the proceedings.

CRIMINAL CHARGES AGAINST MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

It would seem as though there were no end to the series of shocks which the public conscience must endure arising out of charges of serious immorality against Members of Parliament. Old scandals have not died away before newer and worse ones taken their place. Bad as were the Dilke case and the Parnell case they did not also include the element of crime. In the charges which this week have been made against Captain Verney, the Liberal M, P. for North Buckinghamshire, and Mr. E. S. W. D. Cobain, the Tory M. P. for East Belfast not only is the immorality of a blacker description but offences against the Criminal law are charged. Except as regards the guilt or innocence of the unfortunate persons whose names have been in everybody's mouth during the week there is no longer any mystery though the offences have been more or less talked about for a considerable time. Warrants to arrest these persons issued and they have not been executed the alleged wrong-doers have not and one of them at least is country. Considering how charges, their being made by d however, the nature of the cumstances, the ease with which they may be depraved persons, the difficulty of establishing innocence and the taint which even the bare allegation of such offences inevitably leaves, such action, however week and imprudent in one sense it may be considered, is not so open to unfavorable conclusions as in other classes of cases it might be.

The alleged facts upon which the warrant has been issued against Captain Verney are these. Some months ago a Frenchwoman was fined and convicted at the Central Criminal Court in London for conspiracy with an unknown person bearing the name of "Wilson" to procure a female for immoral purposes. The facts proved against the woman and the "Mr. Wilson" were of a peculiarly abominable character, a young lady having been induced to leave her home under the pretence of honourable employment being found for her. She was lured to Paris and there exposed to serious temptations and gross insults by the soi-disant "Mr. Wilson. It is now alleged that in the course of enquiries by the detectives they discovered that "Mr. Wilson" was really Captain Verney; and further evidence having since been obtained a fresh warrant was issued against Captain Verney on Friday of last week, but he was not within the jurisdiction. A telegram has been heard from him in the House of Commons to the effect that having heard of it in Italy he immediately started for England.

The charge against Mr. De Cobain is one of committing unnatural offences in Belfast in the course of the last two years; the Irish Police having been investigating the matter for several months. Informations were recently sworn against him and a warrant issued but it is said that Mr. De Cobain had left the country. He is reported to have emphatically denied his guilt and has stated to a friend that the charges are unjustly and wantonly made by some person because he has resisted pressure put upon him to extract blackmail or hush-money. It is said that some uncertainty exists in the constituency he represents as to the political effect of the serious position in what he is placed. Some weeks ago a form of application for the Chiltern Hundreds, the form usually gone through when a member of the House of Commons wishes to resign his seat, was sent to him to sign but he refused to do anything of the kind. For the present his election committee will take no active steps in the matter it not being their policy that a vacancy should be brought about in the constituency.

In reference to this point of a vacancy there has been a good deal of discussion and many doubts have been expressed as to the position of a member who flys the country in consequence of legal proceedings. Upon conviction for felony there is of course no doubt that he forfeits his seat; but it has been thought that where the question was only one of an impending criminal charge a constituency was in a dilemma if its representative acted on the maxim that discretion is the better part of valour and fled. However there has been one such case at least, that of a member called Sadleir, a Banker whose enormous defalcations and adventures are classic in the annals of English crime. It appears that after a true bill for fraud had been found by a grand jury and upon the reports of the Crown solicitor and of the officers of constabulary made to the House showing that measures had been taken to bring him to trial he was expelled as having fled from justice.

In all matters relating to sexual immorality, where the name of public men are prominent, we naturally turn to the columns of the "*Pall Mall Gazette*" to see what it has to say about the subject. Its virtue is of a peculiarly aggressive type; so much so indeed that it has often been charged with nastiness, especially in cases which come under the criminal law amendment Act, which some years ago was passed to check certain offences which were becoming more and more prevalent, as it contended, against the virtue of female children, it has been particularly interested; and has claimed the honour of being the principal instrument in maging that Act possible. We are not disappointed at not finding as we expected something very piquant. Thus speaks the P. M. G.—"The Devil must have his tongue in his cheek over the issue of these too warrants. It is not merely that the number of irretrievable blackguards among the presentatives of the last f (on the theory of the for a moment that every 100. that must the

The piquancy of these observations is heightened by the tact that the P. M. G. has been for a good while looked upon as the special organ of the psalm singing act whose mission is to disgust all rational people by its prudery and its efforts to introduce an unnatural standard of what it is pleased to regard as morality. It is composed of the class of people who with rabid fanaticism would be delighted to impose upon us a rule of life as opposed to the general sentiment and feelings of our society as the headstrong reformers so called who, also in the name of morality have saddled you with the Age of Consent bill. If the eyes of the P. M. G. have become opened to the hypocrisy which is behind all this spurious sanctity there will be a distinct gain to healthiness of feeling amongst us. While it was about it too it might have propped the bit of hopocrisy about the "Devil;" though perhaps we may look upon the use of that ill-omened name as a conventional figure of rhetoric which no one now-a-days takes seriously. This like many other of our theological terms has lost its meaning to most of us; and though we can still be frightened by it under some circumstances, we are much like Madame de Itael who confessed to being afraid of ghosts though she did not believe in them. It comes in useful at times but we only laugh when a particularly duped person take his Satanic Majesty seriously like the jury did the other day who found that certain person had committed suicide "at the instigation of the Devil."

While speaking of scandals I may say in reference to the Baecarat case which I have before mentioned, that it will soon come on for trial in the Law Courts, some times probably in the course of next week; and it is expected to last two or three days. Though the Prince of Wales has not been summoned as a witness it is expected that he will be in attendance at the trial and may be called on to give evidence. Very properly the court has refused to allow it to be taken before other cases, and it may be that if it is not reached by an early day next week it may not come on for another month. That, however, could hardly be considered a public calamity, or any reason for putting other people, who are not aristocratic idlers and gamblers, to delay and inconvenience for the sake of those who are.

THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(Continued from the Hindoo Patriot of the 11th May, 1891.)

10. Twenty-nine lectures were delivered by Babu Ashutosh Mukhopadhyay on Mathematical Physics, of which seven formed an introductory course treating of portions of Analysis which are of frequent application in physics, five were upon Elastic Solids, and eighteen were upon Physical Optics.

The subjects of the lectures forming the introductory course were as follows:—

The first lecture treated of Definite Integrals, with especial reference to such as occur in the theory of conduction of heat and diffraction of light; the validity of imaginary transformations was discussed.

The second lecture treated of Definite Integrals regarded as functions of an arbitrary parameter, and special attention was directed to the limiting values attained in certain remarkable cases when the parameter was increased indefinitely.

In the third lecture, an exposition was given of the Functions of Bessel and Heine. The genesis of the different forms of series by which these functions can be represented was explained, and new proof was given of the theorem about the reality of the roots; finally, it was shown how a definite integral the element of which consists of the product of two Bessel's functions, can be evaluated, and the analogy to Laplace's functions was pointed out.

The fourth lecture dealt with Fourier's theorem on expansion of a function, between given limits of variable, in a trigonometrical series. Attention drawn to the different forms assumed by the mulæ according as the function is odd or even. addition to analytical examples, geometrical illustions were given; and it was shown that the orem might be utilized in simbolizing discontinuus functions like the contour of a trapezium or a angle, or the form of a staircase.

The fifth and sixth lectures treated of spherical armonics, and the subject was discussed both by metrical and analytical methods. Proofs were f the diff Legendre's coefficigiven different forms Rodrigue's ents viz, Legendre's form as a series, form as a differential coefficient, and the forms of Laplace and Dirichlet as definite integrals; a modification of Laplace's form was obtained from the geometry of the circle.

The seventh lecture gave a discussion of line, surface and volume integrals; Green's theorem was deduced, and its application to spherical harmonics was explained; the method of developing a function of one variable by spherical functions was also proved, and a sketch was given of Darboux's method for the case of functions of two variables.

The subjects of the five lectures on Elastic Solids were as follows:

The first lecture dealt with the elementary notions lying at the root of the mathematical theory; the stress-equations were obtained from a consideration of the equilibrium of an elementary parallelopiped and an elementary tetrahedron in the interior of the solid.

M. DE LESSEP'S adversary.—The Panama Canal's most redoubtable enemies are neither the Americans, the English, nor the interloping financiers of all countries who poo poo the enterprise in order to appropriate it. M. de Lessep's real and implacable adversary, the only one against which his prestige, his credit, and his glory are impotent is the fever. It is the fever which kills the most vigorous men in a few hours, and which continually makes gaps in his works. Perhaps many forget or do not know, that it is Quinine which has permitted the conquest and colonisation of Algeria. In the same way A Labarraque's Quinium Wine, can render the most signal services but it is not only that for one of Algeria's best and most illustrious doctors, Dr. Wahu, frequently said if that the most energetic of tonics known was Labarraque's Quinium," we must add that it is still more a powerful febrifuge and an excellent preservative.

The second lecture treated of the stress ellipsoid and the determination of principal pressures.

In the third lecture, the equations of stress-equilibrium in cylindrical and in polar coordinates were obtained by geometrical methods by dividing the solid into suitable elements.

The fourth lecture gave a short account of Helmholtz's theorem on molecular rotation, which was used to obtain the general expression for the component of pressures. The method of reduction of the number of coefficien in the general expression, under special circumstance, was explained and the following cases were considered in detail : (1) One plane of elasticity, (2) Two rectangular planes of elasticity, (3) Three planes and one axis of elasticity, (4) Three planes and two axes of elasticity (isotropic solid). It was lastly shewn how these reductions lead at once to the equations of equilibrium and motion, in terms of the displacements.

The fifth lecture gave a short account of Poincare's method of discussing the vibrations of an elastic solid by Lagrange's equations.

The eighteen lectures on Physical Optics treated both of the elastic solid and the electro magnetic theory, and their subjects were as follows :

In the first lecture, the equations of vibration of the luminiferous medium were worked out on the elastic solid hypothesis.

In the second lecture, an explanation was given of the modified form assumed by the general equations according as the vibrations are transversal or longitudinal ; the elementary theory of plane waves was fully explained ; and this furnished the explanation of the existence of evanescent rays in Fresnel's experiment, where by placing a plate of glass at a small distance from a surface at which there was total reflexion, he obtained obscure luminous fringes.

In the third lecture, starting with the assumption that the intensity of a luminous vibration is proportional to the *vis-viva* of the molecule in motion, the mode of measuring luminous intensity was explained. The interference of ordinary and polarized light was then considered in detail, and the full mathematical explanation of the laws of Fresnel and Arago was furnished.

The fourth lecture was devoted to an exposition of Huyghen's principle and its justification. The equations of transversal vibrations were integrated, first, for the particular case of spherical waves, and then, for the general case by Poincare's method, and from solutions it was shown that the principle in question led to consistent results.

The fifth lecture gave a [illegible] account of [illegible] memoir on double refraction as explained [illegible] mont's commentary. The hypotheses which [illegible] the theory were enumerated ; an analytical [illegible] sion for the elastic force developed by the displacement of an individual molecule was obtained, and from it was deduced the principle of the superposition of elasticities. This naturally lead to the inverse ellipsoid of elasticity, the directions of the principal axes of which are such that to [illegible] displacement, of a molecule parallel to one [illegible] produces an elastic displacement parallel to [illegible] ponent and, in general, no other directions enjoy this property. The properties of the inverse ellipsoid were further considered with reference to the singular directions of the plane of displacement, and these theorems were applied to establish Fresnel's theorem that to any normal direction of propagation correspond two systems of plane waves of which the elements depend on those of the inverse ellipsoid.

In the sixth lecture, Fresnel's theory was further considered ; the equation of the surface of elasticity was formed, and from it was deduced the equation of the wave surface ; the relations between the direction of normal propagation of plane waves, the direction of radius vector of the wave surface, and the direction of vibration, were also proved

The seventh lecture treated of double refraction in biaxal crystals ; the properties of the wave surface were discussed in detail ; the positions of the singular points and singular tangent planes were calculated, and thence followed the explanation of internal and external conical refraction ; the cone of contact was, from the properties of the reciprocal cone, shown to be one of the second order. The relation between the velocity of propagation of a plane wave and the position of this wave with reference to the optic axes, was also proved.

The eighth lecture dealt with the dynamical theory (Green and Fresnel) of reflection. It was shewn as a consequence of the theory that the conversion of plane polarized light into circularly polarized light by *one* reflection is impracticable, and the theory of Fresnell's rhomb was explained

The ninth lecture gave an account of MacCullagh's theory of metalic reflection, based, after Fresnel's method, on a hypothetical interpretation of an imaginary formula.

In the tenth lecture, the interference of polarized light (plane, circular or elliptic) was considered in great detail ; and the theorem of Stokes that, in general, any stream of light may be regarded as composed of two streams,—one of natural light, the other of elliptically polarized light,—was completely established ; the intensity of the first and the elliptic constants of the second, were calculated.

In the eleventh lecture, the theory of the colours of thin crystalline plates was discussed, and the formula for the intensity of illumination at any point was proved. The properties of the isochromatic surface in uniaxal and biaxal crystals were proved ; the particular cases when the sections of the isochromatic surface are a circle, hyperbola or lemniscate were treated by Bertin's method.

The twelfth lecture, treated of rotatory polarization. An account was given of (1) the theory of Fresnel in which a rectilinear vibration is regarded as the resultant of two opposite circulrr vibrations (2) the theory of Airy, where the resolution is into elliptic vibrations, (3) the theory of MacCullagh, based on a modification of the fundamental equations of vibration in the ethereal medium Especial attention was directed to MacCullagh's dynamical explanation of the modified equations, which has been uniformly overlooked by physicists. An account was also given of the theory of the coloured rings.

The thirteenth lecture treated of Stoke's dynamical theory of diffraction. Rayleigh's method was followed in calculating the disturbance at any time and at any point of an elastic medium, produced by a given periodic disturbance which was initially confined to a finite portion of the medium. The law of disturbance in a secondary wave was then calculated, and a full analysis was then given of the results obtained in Stoke's great paper.

In the fourteenth and fifteenth lectures, some illustrations were given of the theory of diffraction. An expression for the disturbance propagated in any direction from a particle upon which a beam of light strikes (the particle being small in comparison with even the wave length of violet light), was calculated. It was shown that when light is scattered by small particles, the ratio of the intensities of the scattered and incident lights varies inversely as the fourth power of the wave length ; this led to Rayleigh's theory of the colour of the sky. Fraunhofer's diffraction phenomena were discussed in detail ; the forms of the diffraction patterns in the case of rectangular and circular apertures were determined, including the case where the source is not seen in the focus. Bridge's theory [illegible] theory of [illegible] theorems were established ; the theory [illegible] Talbot's Bands was worked out ; and a proef was given of Stoke's theorem that the total intensity is proportional to the area of the aperture, whatever its form may be.

In the three remaining lectures, an account was given of the electro-magnetic theory of light. The theory of electric oscillations and of the Hertzian vibrator for detecting them, was fully explained. A summary was given of Maxwell's dynamical theory of the electro-magnetic field, with applications to the propagation of plane luminous waves, their reflection and double refraction. The effect produced by the motion (rotational or translational) of the dielectric on the velocity of light was calculated, and this furnished an explanation of Fizeau's experiment showing that the velocity of light passing through a tube containing water in motion exceeds the velocity of light passing through still water by half the velocity of the water.

11. On account of the dilapidated condition of the old laboratory building no new instruments of noteworthy character were purchased during the year save a tangent galvanometer and an incandescent lamp which were required for lecture illustration.

12. For the Library *The Scientific American* and *Nature* were purchased as usual. The Government of India presented to the Library of the Association the Geological Memoirs and Records of the year. The Metcorological Department of the Government of India presented the Association with the following publications :—The daily weather chart, the weekly weather report, the monthly summary. The Association received from the Government of Bombay the following publications during the year : (1) A brief skotch of the Meteorology of the Bombay Presidency, (2) The administration and progress Report of the Lunatic Asylums in the Bombay Presidency, (3) Report of the Chemical Analyser to Government of Bombay, (4) Crop Experiments (5) Twenty sixth annual report of the Sanitary Commissioner for the Government of Bombay, (6) Report of the Khandesh experimental farm, (7) Preventives against attacks of weevil upon corn and grain, (8) The Magnetical and Meteorological Observations, (9) Annual Report of the Director, Land Records and Agriculture, for the year 1889-90. The report of the Lowis Jubilee Sanitarium of the year 1889 90 was also received by the Association. Mr. Patrick Doyle, Editor and Proprietor of the *Indian Engineering*, has been supplying the Association with his valuable Journal since its commencement.

13. The principal items of receipts of the Association during the year were as follows :—

	Rs.	A	P.
From Subscription	1,030	0	0
„ Donation	15	0	0
„ Interest General Fund	3,456	0	0
„ Rent from Roadside Shops	2,352	0	0

14. The principal items of expenditure of the Association during the year were as follows :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Lecture Charges	146	4	3
Charges General	526	4	9
Establishment	1,033	0	0
Scientific Instrument Account (K. K. Tagore's Fund)	71	0	0
Rates and Taxes	565	8	0
Lighting charges	81	2	

15. On the 31st December 1890 the Association had in the custody of the Bank of Bengal Government securities of the value of Rs. 88,400, a floating balance of Rs. 19,525-11-9 and a cash balance in the office of Rs. 103-12-3, amounting in all to Rs. 108,029-8-0.

On the 31st December 1889 the Association had in the custody of the Bank of Bengal Government securities of the value of Rs. 88,400, a floating balance of Rs. 13,637-13-0 and a cash balance in the office of Rs. 47-10-9.

16. The thanks of Association are due to the following members who are kind enough to give monthly, quarterly or yearly subscriptions :—

Maharaja Sir Jotendra Mohun Tagore Bahadur, K.C.S.I., Raja Peary Mohun Mookerjee Bahadur, C.S.I. Rai Radhica Prasanna Mookerjee Bahadur. Babu Kally Charan Ghosh, Babu Nilmani Mitter, Babu Nilmani Kumar, Babu Khetter Mohun Bose, Babu Nilmani Mookerjee, M.A., B.L. Babu Gonesh Chunder Chunder, Babu Soshi Bhusan Chatterjea, and Babu Nrisinha Chandra Mukhopadhyaya.

17. The Committee of Management have to record with great sorrow the death of Babu Mohesh Chunder Chardhury who was a Member of the Committee of Management from the very foundation of the Association.

18. The thanks of the Association are due to the lecturers, their auditor, Babu Issan Chunder Bose, and their Engineer colleagues, Babus Nilmani Mitter and Khetter Mohan Bose, for their gratuitous services.

19. At the last annual meeting held on the 21st March, His Highness the Maharaja of Vizianagram expressed his desire to bear the entire cost building, a new Laboratory, which was estimated for at a [illegible] exceeding Rs. 50,000. This munificent figure [illegible] gratefully accepted, and it was unanimously resolved to name the Laboratory after His offer was most [illegible] the Viceroy, the Patron Highness. His Excellency [illegible] pleased to lay of the Association, was graciously [illegible] the Foundation-Stone of the Vizianagram Laboratory on the same month. Tenders were called for the building of the Laboratory by public advertisements. Fourteen tenders were received. Of these that of Babu Mohendra Lal Chandra, who had built the Lecture Hall, was accepted by the Committee at their meeting held on the 16th June. The Agreement between the Honorary Secretary and the contractor was signed on the 28th August. The work of excavation was begun, but owing to continued untimely rains, the building could not proceed beyond the stage of the foundations during the year.

20. The Committee regret that the subscription list for the Ripon Professorship, which was opened so far back as 1884, under the auspices of Lord Ripon himself, has not shown any progress ; and it is feared that out of Rs. 19,550 subscribed up to 1886, at least Rs. 5,000 will probably have to be set down as unrealizable. However this may be, the Committe still hope that the coutry, of which Lord Ripon is such a true friend, will not allow the project of the first professorship which it was resolved to name after the noble Lord, to remain a myth to our lasting disgrace. As a set-off to this lamentable state of things about the Ripon Professorship Fund, the Committee have to announce with gratitude that His Highness the Maharaja of Cooch Behar has been contributing since April of last year the sum of Rupees one hundred a month in aid of the establishment of a Permanent Professorship, it being left to the Committee to decide the branch of Science for which the Professorship should be established. The Committee at their meeting held on the 30th May 1890 decided that the Professorship should be in chemistry, and that it should be called the Cooch Behar Professorship of Chemistry. The Honorary Secretary has been ever since trying his best to get a suitable person for the post, but up to this time he has not succeeded in finding one who will accept it for Rs. 100 a month, and besides he has not come upon a one who is competent to fill it so that the Association may be induced to pay a certain sum monthly in addition to the Maharaja's contribution. The money

received from the Maharaja is accumulating. The Committee is anxious to know how best to utilize it so as to give effect to the Maharaja's intentions. The gentlemen who have been hitherto gratuitously lecturing in chemistry are Babu Taraprasanna Roy and Babu Ram Chunder Dutt. The Committee beg to suggest that for the present, and till a competent man be found, these gentlemen be remunerated for their services out of the Maharaja's subscription, and called Cooch Behar Professors of Chemistry.

21. The office of President of the Association became vacant on the retirement of Sir Steuart Bayley, and was very kindly accepted by His Honor Sir Charles Elliott.

(To be continued.)

ORIENTAL GOVERNMENT SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

THE report of the "Oriental" and the proceedings at the sixteenth annual meeting, held on the 20th April last, deals in a very exhaustive manner with the operations of the year. The report shows that the progress of the office in the year ending 31st December 1890 was eminently satisfactory. It is given to very few Companies to report such a large business at the lowest expense ratio of management of any company of the same age, yet this was the case with the Oriental in the financial year just past. The Report is as follows:

The Directors of the Oriental Government Security Life Assurance Company, Limited, have much pleasure in submitting to their fellow-shareholders and policy-holders their report of the operations of the company for the year ending 31st December 1890.

As on previous occasions, the directors are glad to report that substantial progress has been made, the result of the whole business being that the funds of the Company, which, at the beginning of the year amounted to Rs. 44,08,437-0-11, have been increased to the extent of Rs. 7,71,691-3-7, thus making a total of Rs. 51,80,128-4-6, being an amount of accumulated resoruces which the directors consider affords to all members complete security.

The details of the above increase are given in the accounts so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the Company's affairs. The copy of the accounts accompanies this Report, to which is also appended the Auditors', Bankers', and Official Trustee's Reports.

During the year 2,426 Life Proposals were made to the Company for Assuring the sum of Rs. 78,72,300.

Of this number 1,833 have resulted in Policies, and the remainder have either been declined, with[illegible] or are awaiting completion.

On the New Policies effected [illegible]ndrawn, Annual Premia, less debts [illegible], Average Systems, &c. [illegible] during the year, the Sum Assur[illegible] under the New Plan, Under-[illegible], amount to Rs. 2,36,259-5-0. the [illegible]ed being Rs. 53,55,550, which is a very satisfactory result. If the above-mentioned debt were included, the New Annual Premia would amount to Rs. 2,71,428-9-0. Annuity Bonds for Rs. 1,834-8-0 have also been issued, the price thereof being Rs. 13,411-7-0.

The above amount of new Life Assurances is the largest effected with the Company in any year during its history.

The total number of policies on the books of the Company, exclusive of those that have lapsed by time, death, surrender, or non-payment of Premia, is 10,378, assuring in the aggregate Rs. 3,17,59,900 and realizing in Annual Premia Rs. 13,62,227-12-0, exclusive of debts due to the Company on the New Plan and Under-Average Schemes. If these were included, the Annual Income would amount to Rs. 15,35,901-14-1. Of the Sum Assured Rs. 10,19,500 is Re-assured; and Promissory Notes remain outstanding for Rs. 4,16,429-5-8.

The total amount of Premia received on the Policies of Life Assurance in force, less debt thereon was Rs. 13,03,478-14-11 and the total Income of the Company from all sources was Rs. 14,90,342-14-6.

Claims by death were preferred under 141 Policies, arising through the decrease of 103 Insured lives, and representing an Assused sum of Rs. 4,12,714-5-0. Of this amount Rs. 25,000 were Re-assured, and consequently repaid to the Company. Claims on Endowment Assurances matured numbered 7, the amount payable being Rs. 12,000; also two monthly Pensions of Rs. 10 each. This is considerable under the Company's expectation.

The Total Number of Claims since the commencement of the Company is 560, including Endowments, amounting to Rs. 20,58,813-2-2, of which Rs. 2,06,973-1-6 Re-assured.

Great care continues to be exercised in the selection of lives for Assurance, and it is satisfactory to notice that so few Claims have accrued.

The Total payments of the Company have been Rs. 7,21,565-14-7, which includes Rs. 38,628-13-4 for Re-assurances, Rs. 4,62,904-12-0 for Claims, Pensions, Surrenders, Annuities Dividends, and cash Bonuses to Policyholders, leaving a Balance of Receipts over Expenditure of Rs. 7,69,776-15-11.

The careful regard to Economy which has marked the management of the Company from its commencement is still maintained.

The Investments of the Company are :—

4 per cent. Government Securities for Rs48,86,500-0-0

Since last Annual Meeting the Directors have, in the interests of the Company, converted the small balance of 4½ per cent. Government Securities into 4 per cent. at a good rate.

Since our last Annual Meeting we have elected the Hon'ble Fazulbhoy Visram, Member of the Legislative Council, and Sir Jamestjee Jejeebhoy, Bart., C. S. I., to seat at the Board, on account of increasing business and owing to the unavoidable absence of other members of the Board in consequence of failing health. We recommend these appointments for confirmation by the Shareholders and Policyholders.

The Director retiring from Office in rotation on the present occasion is Mr. Raghunath N. Khote, C. I. E. It is with deep regret that the Directors have to report the resignation, due to infirm health, of Mr. Khote, who had been since the foundation of the Company a much respected member of the Board.

Mr. Hurrychund Sadasewjee, Shareholders' Auditor, and Mr. Ardaseer Framjee Moos, Policyholders' Auditor, also retire, but are eligible for re-election.

The Directors recommend a dividend of 12 per. cent per annum to Shareholders for last year.

The Directors had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Meikle, the Consulting Actuary of the Company, while on a tour in India and the East with his daughter, last November. They wish to express their condolence for the bereavement he has suffered in the unexpected death of Miss Meikle since leaving Bombay.

Dr. James Arnott, having returned from furlough, has resumed his appointment from Dr. Wellington Gray, as Chief Medical Adviser of the Company.

The Directors have much pleasure in placing before their fellow-members the foregoing statement, in the full confidence that, whilst they will thus be enabled to appreciate the policy adopted in the management of the Company's affairs, they will be induced to assist the efforts of the Directors by recommending the Company to the favourable considerations of their friends and connections. Every Shareholder and Policyholder should bear in mind that, as fellow-members of the "Oriental," the interests of the [illegible] identical with his own, [illegible] the Directors are identical [illegible] and that all are equally concerned in promoting, to the best of their ability, the welfare of the Institution to which they belong.

The Chairman, then said :—

Gentlemen,—I have much pleasure in rising to move the adoption of the Report, and to draw your attention to the steady progress the Company is making.

I do not think that my observations will be very long on this occasion, as the Report and Accounts being so full, little is really left for the Chairman to say, in moving their adoption. Before touching upon the various leading points of the Report, I have to refer to the absence of our esteemed colleague, Mr. Raghunath N. Khote, C.I.E., who always took a prominent part on these occasions. The Directors, in announcing the retirement on account of ill-health of Mr. Khote, feel sure the members will concur with them in expressing sincere regret, not only at the Company thus being deprived of his services but also at the cause which has necessitated such a step.

I am glad we again find ourselves, at the close of our year's operations, in the position of being able to lay before you a Report, which gives evidence of solid progress, and which is highly satisfactory. The Report of the Directors, the Bankers, the Official Trustees' Certificates, the Financial Statements in reference to the Company's and the Auditor's Report, are so clear and explicit, and contain so full an account of the Company's position and progress, that there appears little occasion for much remark by me. I shall, however, be happy to give any further information or explanation that may be desired.

The Premium income for the past year is Rs. 13,03,478-14-11, showing an increase over that of the previous year of Rs. 1,40,929-3-4, and to give you an idea of the steady progress of the Company, I will give you the amount of the New Premiums for each Triennial period from the commencement, also for current year :—

1874 and 1875.....		
1875 and 1876.....	Rs.	81,135-8-10
1876 and 1877.....		
1878, 1879 and 1880.....	„	1,96,845-14-8
1881, 1882 and 1883.....	„	4,44,427-6-8
1884, 1885 and 1886.....	„	6,42,044-7-9
1887, 1888 and 1889.....	„	7,06,828-2-6
1890,.....	„	2,71,428-9-0

It will be observed that the business has again been well maintained, and a glance at the Table attached to the Directors' Report (page 7) will prove the remarkable prominence held by our Company. It will be again noticed that the Oriental Life transacted in 1889 [the figures for 1890 of the Home Offices not being yet available] a larger amount of new business in its Fifteenth year than many of the leading Offices of Great Britain, some of which have been in operation for upwards of one hundred years. Taken all round the new Premiums, as above, present a record of success without precedent. A large and increasing business has been done at a phenomenally low ratio of expenses. The Directors might have increased the amount of new business, but they have exercised the utmost care in selection, always giving the Company the benefit of a doubt when dealing with Proposals. This I think is a very fair indication of the activity and zeal of our Officers, Agents, and Members, and of the large increase of public confidence which the Company has gained. The total business of the Oriental is over 317 Lacs of Rupees. The Assets or Funds were increased during the year by Rs. 7,71,691-3-7. The favourable mortality attained by prudent care in the acceptance of lives offering for Assurance, and the very moderate expenses of management from the commencement, enable us to show highly satisfactory results.

I have now, gentlemen, great pleasure in moving the adoption of the Report of the Directors.

Manager and Actuary said in responding to a vote of thanks :—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,—On behalf of myself, and the Office Staff, I beg to thank you very much for the vote of thanks which you have been good enough to pass. I deem it right on present occasion to recapitulate the following facts, in order that a brief history of the distinctive features of the Company may be presented to Members and intending assurers.

The Oriental is the only Life Assurance Company of its kind, and gives a new and improved character to practical life assurance and its administration, especially in India.

This is done by allowing Policyholders a voice in its management, as the first consideration should be the interests of the assured. Strictly prohibiting Amalgamations thus rendering it impossible that such cases of hardships can occur, as those which have resulted from amalgamations; providing the highest order of security for its engagements; allowing Policyholders the option of insuring at English Rates with perfect safety, giving a fixed monetary value for every premium paid by [illegible] 80 per cent. thereof in Gover[illegible] sole property, by Share[illegible] investing [illegible] ties as their [illegible] Policyholders appointing their own trus[illegible]ditors and consulting actuary, to protect thei[illegible]ective interests; by no entire forfeiture of polici[illegible] by lapsed policies being renewed without fine; by the entire direction being in India; by native lives being assured at European rates, as it has been proved by five successive actuarial valuations, by two of the highest and most eminent independent Actuarial authorities, viz., [the late J. Hill Williams, F.I.A., formerly President of the Institute of Actuaries, London, and James Meikle, F.I.A., late President of the Actuarial Society of Edinburgh, that their lives are as valuable as those of Europeans in India; by Funds invested in Government securities only, and remaining in India, so as to afford absolute security; by economical management, without which the best of systems cannot succeed, by the profits of the Company reverting to Policyholders and Shareholders in this country from whose payments they accrue; by no restriction on travel; and by allowing all interested in the Company to understand its position; and by making Policies and Promissory notes of the Oriental financial securities of the highest class, always available to their holders for monetary purposes, and thereby conferring on the Company its distinctive character.

As these solid advanntages become more widely known to the public it is reasonable to suppose they will be appreciated and adopted by intending Insurers, seeking for undoubted security, convenience and equity in Insurance transactions.

I think every one present on this occasion might bring me one assurer before the end of the year. You must all have one friend uninsured either European or Native and this friend in turn would bring another, and so on, *ad infinitum*, until every insurable life in India is insured in the Oriental. And why in the Oriental, will be asked by the Agents of other companies? Because the Oriental has the first claim on the land of its birth, being purely an Indian Institution, raised by Indian capital, managed entirely in India and offering advantages more particularly to native assurers, which cannot be obtained by intending assurers in any other Life Assurance Company anywhere.

From my long business intercourse with enlightened natives from all parts of India, I have no doubt the spread of life assurance, and its influences will in time work remarkable changes in the habits, customs and feelings of the people of this country.

We have lately lost a good friend in Sir Mahdeva Row, of Madras, who has always taken a deep interest in the welfare of our company. He considered it an Institution which brought out the best qualities of his countrymen, by enabling them on the same terms as Europeans to make suitable provision for their families; thus encouraging industry, economy and self-denial, and making them independent of the aid of others. He considered we deserved every encouragement for what we had done for natives in this country.

These evidences of increasing confidence and wider usefulness must be satisfactory in the highest degree to policyholders and shareholders, and ought to induce them everywhere to exert their active influence in helping to advance still more rapidly the business of the "Oriental."

In spite of very active competition on the part of the companies engaged in similar business we have been able to maintain our position as a progressive Company, and as you will see by the report now read we have increased our business over any previous year. I am also glad to say the three months of this year shows increase on the business of the corresponding three months of last year.

We have done our best from the commencement of the Company to attain success, and without being accused of egotism, I am sure I may safely say we have not only commanded success but have deserved it.

In conclusion, we hope to meet you again this time twelve months with an equally, if not a still more, favourable report.

The Management of the "Oriental" have conclusively shown that liberal dealings with the public will produce a good life assurance business and excellent results. It must have been attended for years with peculiar difficulties and it gives us much pleasure to congratulate Mr. McLauchlan Slater upon the success which has attended his able conduct of the affairs of the Company.

The defalcations which have since been discovered are much to be regretted in the light of such an excellent report. They are explained in the following letter attached to the Report :—

Oriental Government Security Life Assurance Company, Limited, Albert Building, Bombay, May, 1891.

To the Shareholders and Policyholders of the Company.

Dear Sirs,—Since the date of the last General Meeting certain facts have come to my knowledge, and to the knowledge of your directors, which it has become our unpleasant duty to place before you.

It will be remembered that Dorabjee Dhunjeebhoy Shroff, the late Assistant Manager of the Company, and who was in its service ever since its establishment, was in charge of such cash and securities of the Company as remained in the office. Latterly this amount has been large on account of the heavy premia received every month.

Dorabjee Dhunjeebhoy Shroff absented himself on the day of the said meeting upon what is now discovered to have been a mere pretence.

The ascertainment of the exact amount of the deficit is now the subject of investigation.

The matter has been placed in the hands of the Company's solicitors, who are doing all they can on behalf of the Company.

D. D. Shroff has been arrested and Criminal Proceedings have been commenced for Breach of Trust and Fabrication of False Evidence. Later on my Directors intend to call a special meeting of the Company at which explanations and statements will be made.

I must inform you that the defalcations do not touch the funds deposited with the Official Trustee, being 80 per cent. of all premia received from the establishment of the Company, and accumulations of interest in the hands of that Officer, nor the capital invested in Government paper in the hands of the Company's Bankers, aggregating in the whole Rs. 46,51,500 but of the present market value of Rs. 48, 96, 782, or thereabouts. This must remove any anxiety which may be created in the minds of the members.

While the discovery of this dishonesty on the part of one who had been for so long a trusted servant of the Company causes deep feelings of regret, it is satisfactory to know that the basis on which the "Oriental" is founded precludes the possibility of jeopardizing the Fund set apart for the Policyholders in the hands of the Official Trustee.

There is no cause for alarm, and there will not be even a temporary lull in that steady onward progress which has marked the Company's operations from its commencement.—I remain, &c.,

D. McLAUCHLAN SLATER, F.I.A.,
Manager and Actuary.

Government Notification

Calcutta Gazette.—*May* 13, 1891

GENERAL.—Babu Debendra Prosad Roy, Temporary, Sub-Deputy Collector, in charge of the Tehsil Office, Alipur, Jalpaiguri, is allowed leave for three months, under article 369-1 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 29th April 1891.

Mr E N Baker, Deputy Commissioner, Manbhum, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of the 24-Pergunnahs, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr C W Bolton, or until further orders.

Mr C A S Bedford, Deputy Commissioner, Chittagong Hill Tracts, is appointed to act as Deputy Commissioner of Manbhum, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr E N Baker, or until further orders.

The Hon'ble H J S Cotton, Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Financial and Municipal Departments, reported his departure from India, on furlough, on the 25th ultimo.

Babu Mohendro Nath Seal, Sub-Deputy Collector, Hughli, is appointed to be a Special Deputy Collector to supervise the revaluation work in the district of Birbhum.

Maulvi Fuzlul Karim, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Nilphamari, Rungpur, is transferred to Rajshahye, and is appointed to have charge of the Nattore sub-division of that district.

Babu Okhoy Coomar Chatterjee, Deputy Magistate and Deputy Collector, Nattore, Rajshahye, is transferred to Rungpur, and is appointed to have charge of the Nilphamari sub-division of that district.

Mr J G Ritchie, Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Darjeeling, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the second grade of Deputy Commissioners, with effect from the 3rd instant, vice Mr R H Renny, on privilege leave.

Babu Joggobundho Khan, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Faridpur, is allowed leave for one month, under articles 266 and 369 of the Civil Service Regulations, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 9th January 1891.

Babu Chandi Charan Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Faridpur, is allowed leave for three months, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 16th April 1891.

Maulvi Sujat Ali Ahmed, Sub-Deputy Collector, Haridaspur, Faridpur, is transferred to the Sadr station of the district of Maimansing.

Babu Tara Nath Bose, Sub-Deputy Collector, Maimansing, is transferred to Haridaspur, in the district of Faridpur.

Babu Hurry Mohun Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Madaripur, Faridpur, is allowed leave for one month, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the afternoon of the 6th ultimo.

Babu Raj Mohun Chuckerbutty, Deputy Magistrate and Depuiy Collector, Faridpur, is appointed to have charge of the Madaripur sub-division of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Hurry Mohun Sen, or until further orders.

Mr A W Cosserat, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, is allowed leave for three months, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Mr C F Manson, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to Chittagong, and is appointed to leave charge of the Cox's Bazar sub-division of that district.

POLICE—Mr F H Tucker, Assistant Superintendent of Police, on special duty, is appointed to act, until further orders, as District Superintendaent of Police, Bhagulpur.

Mr B Rattray, District Superintendent of Police, is appointed to be District Superintendent of Police, Hughli.

ECCLESIASTICAL.—The Rev. Charles Puesching, an ordained Minister of the Evangelical Lutheran Congregation in Purulia in Manbhum, is hereby granted licenses under sections 6 and 9 of Act XV of 1872 authorizing him to solemnise marriages between persons one or both of whom is a Christian or are Christians, and to grant certificates of marriage between persons who are Native Christians respectively.

The Rev Charles Puesching is also appointed to be a Registrar of Births and Deaths under Act VI of 1886.

JAILS.—Mr J W Hanlon, Superintendent of Jail Manufactures in Bengal, is allowed leave for three months, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Mr H Watson, Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General of Jails, is appointed to act as Superintendent of Jail Manufactures in Bengal, during the absence, on leave, of Mr J W Hanlon, or until further orders.

JUDICIAL—Under the authority vested in him by the final clause of section 357 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, Act X of 1882, the Lieutenant-Governor empowers the following Honorary Magistrates, who are attached to the Independent Benches mentioned in the district of the 24 Pergunnahs, to take down evidence in criminal cases in the English language.

Alipore Independent Bench.

Babu Okhil Chunder Mookerjee, The Hon'ble Shahzada Mohammed Furrokh Shah, Prince Jehan Kudr Mirza Wahid Ali Bahadur.

Diamond Harbour Independent Bench.

Babu Hem Chunder Banerjee, Babu Gopal Chunder Mookerjee and Babu Kdear Nath Bose.

Bussirhaut Independent Bench.

Babu Koylash Chunder Ghose, Babu Kunja Bihari Nag Chowdhury and Babu Sitanath Mookerjee.

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W. B. MARTIN Esq.,
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Committee.

Begooserai
The 1st May 1891.

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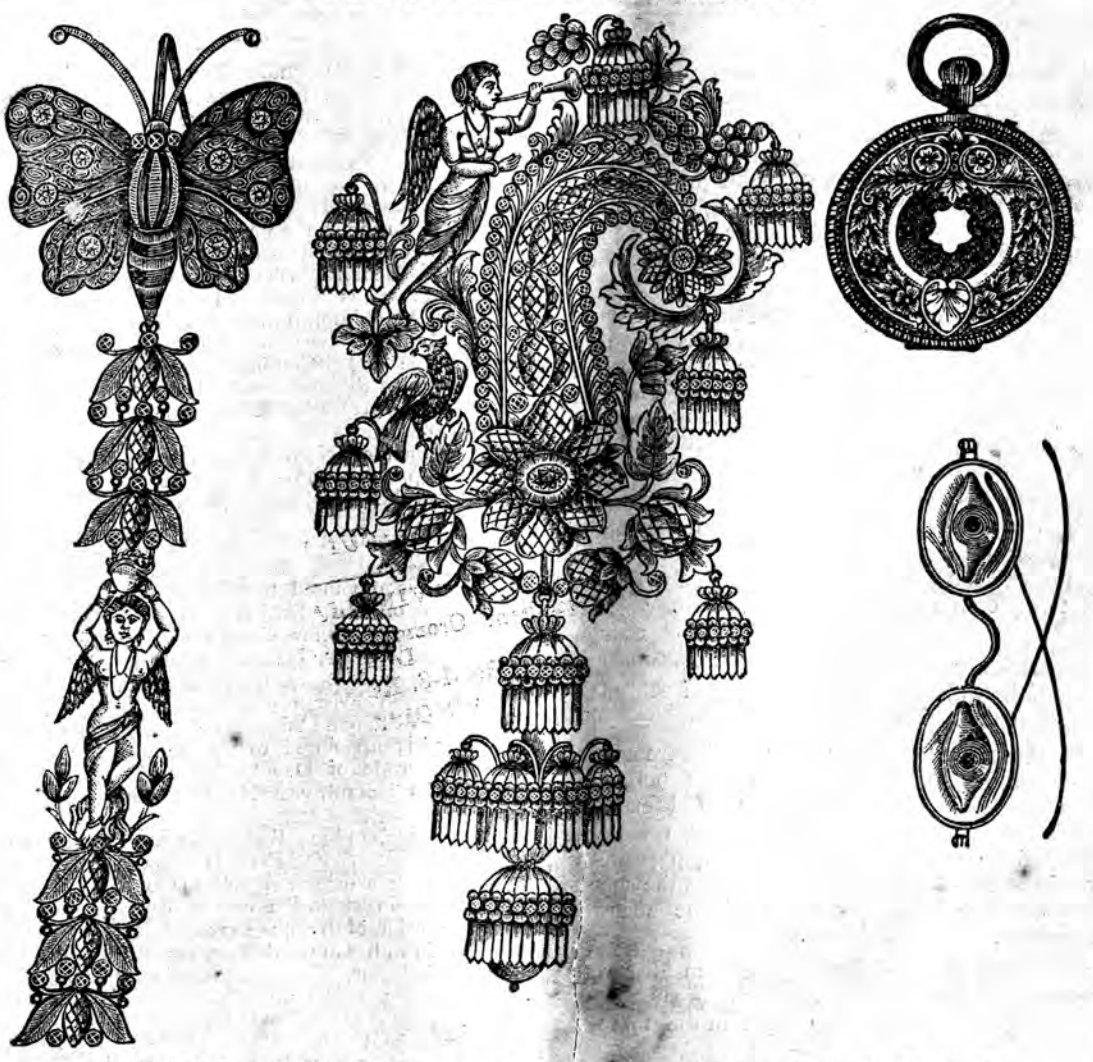

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NOTICE is hereby given that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the abovenamed Company will be held at 27, Pollock Street, Calcutta, on Monday, the 18th of May 1891, at four o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of considering, and if thought fit, passing the subjoined resolutions :—

(1). That the Capital of the Company be increased to Rs. 3,00,000 by the issue of 1,500 shares of Rs. 100 each.

(2). That the Articles of the Association of the Company be altered as follows :—

By striking out and cancelling articles 95, 96 and 97 thereof, and

By altering the word "five" between the words "than" and "nor" in article 73 into "six."

By adding the name of Behary Lall Pyne to the list of the first Directors of the Company and that he be appointed as a Director for the fixed period of five years in terms of article 76 of the Articles of Association.

(3). That the appointment of Mr. S. E. Voigt, as Managing Agent and Secretary to the Company be confirmed.

CALCUTTA : 9th *May* 1891.

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